

MARVEL CHARACTERS WILL SWING INTO ACTION ON MARCH 7 AT THE 2015 HANNAFORD KIDZ EXPO AT THE EMPIRE STATE PLAZA

New York State Office of General Services Commissioner RoAnn M. Destito today announced the 10th annual Hannaford Kidz Expo will take place on Saturday, March 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

“Every year we look forward to seeing the thousands of children and parents arrive at the Empire State Plaza to enjoy all the exciting and educational activities offered at the Hannaford Kidz Expo,” Destito said. “I am happy that we are able to partner with Hannaford Supermarkets and all of our sponsors to offer this free, family event.”

“Hannaford Supermarkets is proud to once again partner with the New York State Office of General Services to make possible a family-oriented event that encourages kids to enjoy learning, eat healthy and stay active,” said Hannaford Supermarkets Community Relations Specialist Brian Fabre. “We look forward to welcoming families to the Empire State Plaza to enjoy a fun-filled day of learning and exploration.”

Kids will find activities galore – many of them focusing on a healthy and active lifestyle. Parents will find information from all of their favorite vendors in one convenient location: summer camps, health care, sports clubs, photographers, schools, dance studios, and amusement parks, just to name a few.

Exciting Activities for All Ages

New in 2015

Among the many new activities planned for this year’s Kidz Expo are:

The Marvel Characters: Marvel’s Super Heroes Show, “The Hero Within” will feature Spiderman, Captain America, Iron Man, Thor, and the Evil Green Goblin in this educational, humorous action-packed show at The Egg’s Swyer Theater at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Following each show the characters will be available for a meet and greet in the theater at 11:45 a.m., 1:45 p.m., and 3:45 p.m.

The Bizzy Beez Activity Center (Meeting Room 2): Presented by The Spotted Zebra Learning Center, the Bizzy Beez Activity Center and TGH USA Ltd. have partnered to present an innovative, indoor, multi-sensory

environment where kids of all ages can move, touch, and play their way through different settings while enhancing and developing motor skills, creativity, self-esteem, and social and cognitive skills.

Toddler Zone presented by United Healthcare Community Plan (Base of The Egg): This year an area just for toddlers will be set up and will feature vendors and activities catered to meet the needs of your younger ones.

Returning Favorites

Several of our most popular attractions will be returning for this year's expo, including:

Hannaford Super Smiles Room (Meeting Rooms 3-4): Stop by to take your picture against a variety of fun and entertaining backdrops and receive a free 4X6 commemorative photo of your experience. Complete your photo shoot by decorating a custom frame.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Presents Legends (Meeting Room 6): Come watch as the clowns demonstrate their CircusFit skills during special performances at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. Between performances, kids can take part in many different crafts and activities.

Fun Putt Challenge presented by MVP HealthCare (Meeting Room 5): Kids can sink a few putts for a chance to win cool prizes, and parents can tee up any questions they may have about health insurance needs and the NYS of Health Marketplace.

Also, the Empire "Skate" Plaza rink will be open for free skating from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. weather permitting, and skate rentals are available. Sunday, March 8 will be the last day of skating for this season.

More information about this year's Hannaford Kidz Expo and other events at the Empire State Plaza, visit us online at www.empirestateplaza.org or Empire State Plaza Events on Facebook, follow us on Twitter @PlazaEvents, or call the OGS Convention & Cultural Events Office at (518) 474-0549.

In addition to Hannaford Supermarkets, sponsors include: SEFCU, NYS 529/Vanguard College Savings Program, NYSUT, MVP Health Care,

UnitedHealthCare Plan, Geico, Holiday Inn Express, Capital District Parent Pages, 107.7 WGNA, and Times Union.

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