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August 30, 2004

Dr. Catehrine Collins Member at Large Board of Education Buffalo Public Schools 713 City Hall Buffalo NY 14202

Dear Dr. Collins:

Imagine what we could become! That is the captivating dream that engages us at the Buffalo Museum of Science as we consider how the museum might look, feel and operate more purposefully in the future.

On behalf of the board and staff of the Buffalo Museum of Science it is my pleasure to personally invite you to share the dream with us. From 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., on Thursday, September 9, 2004 the museum will host its first public conversation dedicated to shaping the museum's future course. I hope you will agree to be with us and share your ideas as we take our first steps in a master planning process that will help us improve and broaden museum services.

I promise you an early evening that will be respectful of your time. Here is how the conversation will unfold:

- To set the stage for our brainstorming, my colleague, Dr. John H. Falk, director of the renowned Institute for Learning Innovation, in Annapolis, MD, will speak briefly about free-choice learning, an innovative educational concept that is increasingly embraced by museums nationally and internationally.
- I will give a short summary of evolving trends and programming concepts at major museums around the country, and how they potentially relate to our museum.
- Also joining us will be special guest Dr. Alphonse T. DeSena, former director of the prestigious Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, and a nationally respected museum planner, will be on hand to informally share insights and experiences.

Come join the conversation and share the vision for what can be! So that we might plan adequately for your participation, please call and leave a message at 896-5200 ext. 313 and let us know you've accepted my invitation. I look forward to personally welcoming you to the museum on September 9th. Please feel free to bring a friend.

And consider promoting the enclosed invitation to the community.

Sincerely,

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David E. Chesebrough President and CEO

