

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**ENCHANTED COLONIAL VILLAGE MAKES ITS VERY LAST APPEARANCE  
AT PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM'S CURRENT HOME!  
Scenes from the Enchanted Colonial Village on display November 23-December 30**

**Philadelphia, Pa.** – Please Touch Museum kicks off the holiday season with a trip to the Village—the Enchanted Colonial Village! Since 2001, Please Touch has invited families to relive holidays past and make new memories as they visit this classic Philadelphia attraction. This year marks the very last time scenes from the Village will be on display at Please Touch Museum's current home on 21st Street before moving to Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park in the fall of 2008. This year, visitors will see the Bakery, Blacksmith, and Village Store scenes.

“The Village has been a part of Philadelphia's annual holiday tradition for over 40 years, and we are excited to once again share the magic and motion of holidays past with children and their families at Please Touch Museum,” says Nancy Kolb, President and CEO of Please Touch Museum. “Once Please Touch moves to its new home at Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park, we will have enough space to display all nine of the Village's remaining scenes.”

Each year, parents visit Please Touch with fond memories of seeing the Enchanted Village as a child, and bring their own children to discover its magic for the first time. Ten million Philadelphians and out-of-town guests visited the display of 18 original Enchanted Colonial Village scenes—then called “Enchanted Christmas Village”—at the Lit Brothers department store at 8th and Market Streets from 1962 until 1975.

After Lit Brothers filed for bankruptcy protection in 1977, the search for a new local display venue started. Determined to keep this local tradition a part of Philadelphia's holiday celebrations, the Sun Oil Company (Sunoco) purchased it during Lit's liquidation sale in hopes of the city taking over ownership of the Village. The city, however, lacked a fitting space for the Village and so the search for a new home continued. The Village was then displayed at locations like Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, the Smithsonian Institution's Office of Horticulture, and the Atwater Kent Museum until Please Touch Museum took ownership of the nine remaining Village scenes in 2000. Since taking over ownership of this Philadelphia tradition, Please Touch Museum has made great efforts in restoring each figure and setting to their original beauty.

As in most neighborhoods this time of year, there's a lot going on in the Colonial Village...Families can take a peek into the busy Bakery where three bakers work feverishly filling the Village's orders for holiday breads. Their counters, rolling pins and hands are coated in flour as they mix, knead and shape loaves of bread.

The Blacksmith's environment is made up of tools, an anvil, glowing “fires” and leather and brass horses' tackle. Visitors will watch the Blacksmith teach his young apprentice the proper workshop skills and catch a glimpse of the Blacksmith's cat meowing and dog barking at each other from the rooftop, all taking place within a background of clanking metal sounds.

In the Village Store, there is plenty of shopping going on. You'll notice the shopkeeper helping a customer who is preoccupied with a hungry dachshund as it tries to chomp one of her purchases. Other patrons include a family with two small children and a little girl who is enjoying a bit of jam, right from the jar! Baskets of goods can be found on the counter and jars of everything you can imagine are stocked on the shelves.

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Please Touch Museum will be **CLOSED** Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.  
The museum will close at 3 p.m. Monday, December 24th.

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Please Touch Museum® is dedicated to enriching the lives of children by providing learning opportunities through play. Recognized locally and nationally as one of the best children's museums, Please Touch is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$10.95 for adults and children age one and over. Children under one are free. For more information, please call 215-963-0667, visit our web site at [www.pleasetouchmuseum.org](http://www.pleasetouchmuseum.org).