



Celebrating P.T. Barnum's 200th Birthday!

He's 200 years old and still making headlines! Be part of P.T. Barnum's Birthday Bash in Bridgeport

The Barnum Museum wants everyone to enjoy the annual Barnum's Birthday Bash for P.T. Barnum, famed showman, philanthropist and one of Bridgeport's best-known citizens. This 200th party is being held on Barnum's birthday, Monday, July 5 from noon to 3 p.m. at the museum, 820 Main Street in Bridgeport CT. Any child who also has their birthday on July 5 is invited to come for free with their "best buddy," and will receive a complimentary one year membership in Barnum's Kids Club.

The party will feature on-going craft activities, face painting and balloon creations plus an historic, hilarious stage show at 1 p.m., *Barnum's Birthday Bash: A Celebration 200 Years in the Making*. Produced by Center Ring Productions featuring Joe Barney at P.T. Barnum, the show educates and entertains while telling the story of how Barnum changed the face of entertainment, not only in America, but internationally. A delicious birthday cake donated by Luigi's Italian Pastry shop will be served after the performance.

Ringling Bros. clowns will provide roving entertainment during the party and children will be able to participate in fun activities both inside and outside of the museum. Everyone will be able to register to win prizes including a family 4-pack of tickets to one of the fall 2010 performances of *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® Zing Zang Zoom* at Arena at Harbor Yard.

The Barnum Festival will have some of their parade floats on display in front of the museum, along with Spirit and some of this year's royal family led by Ringmaster Tom Santa. There will be festive hats, popcorn and cotton candy for everyone who comes, while supplies last.

Celebrating the 200th birthday of Phineas Taylor Barnum, born July 5, 1810 in Bethel CT, during 2010 The Barnum Museum will chronicle the life and times of this extraordinary showman and the history of Bridgeport where Barnum served as Mayor. For a complete listing of anniversary year events celebrating this amazing – and sometimes outrageous – showman, civic leader and politician, visit www.barnum-museum.org. The original museum building, owned by the City of Bridgeport is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

What: *Barnum's Birthday Bash: A Celebration 200 Years in the Making*

Where: The Barnum Museum, 820 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604

When: Monday, July 5, noon to 3 p.m.

Who: Families and Children of All Ages

Cost: A discounted admission of \$5 per adult and \$3 per child will be in effect for this special event. As always, children under the age of 4 will be admitted free.

For more information call Jaime Knoedler, at 203-331-1104, ext. 102 or visit www.barnum-museum.org