



The Windows at The Barnum Museum are beautiful again...
Thanks to the generous support from the Visual Merchandising team at Macy's

The expert Visual Merchandising team from Macy's stores in Connecticut was at the Barnum Museum on Thursday, Dec. 9. doing what they do best, creating an ambiance in celebration of the holiday spirit for the huge plate glass windows fronting Main Street in downtown Bridgeport.

Jaime Knoedler, Director of Education for The Barnum Museum wrote a letter to Macy's and the word got to the visual display department at Macy's here in Connecticut that the museum needed decorative support following the devastating tornado last summer. Of all the parts of the museum that the general public sees while traveling by foot, bike, bus or car, it's the ornate exterior windows that have looked vacant all summer and fall. The only thing passersby had seen through the windows lately was the dark and uncanny damage to the collection and the signs that the historic building was still closed.

The glass windows were replaced at the end of July following the June tornado damage. Only weeks after they were replaced, the museum had to take precautionary efforts to re-board them when a hurricane threatened a direct hit to Bridgeport in early August. The windows are located just below the glorious Barnum Museum dome, created as part of the original building and designed by the architectural firm Longstaff and Hurd. The City of Bridgeport owns the building and it is listed in the National Register of Historic places.

Jim Cicerchia from the Macy's store located at Connecticut Post Mall will lead a team of visual display experts to help create a festive feel for the weeks leading up to the New Year. Decorations and ideas have been donated by many of the Connecticut Macy's stores to make sure the windows are representative of the Barnum spirit.

There are a number of Victorian Christmas events still scheduled as the culmination of a year celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birthday of Phineas Taylor Barnum. He was born July 5, 1810 in Bethel CT. All year, the Barnum Museum chronicled the life and times of this extraordinary showman and the history of Bridgeport where he served as mayor.

About the Barnum Museum:

The historic section of the Barnum Museum is closed in order to preserve the collection and repair the building following tornado damage suffered in the summer. None of the exhibits illustrating P.T. Barnum's extraordinary business and personal accomplishments will be open until the grand re-opening in mid to late 2011. Before planning a visit, please check the website www.barnum-museum.org or call 203-331-1104 to find out about scheduled programs or to discover interesting historical facts related to P.T. Barnum.

About Macy's

Macy's, the largest retail brand of Macy's, Inc., delivers fashion and affordable luxury to customers at more than 800 locations in 45 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam. Macy's stores and macys.com offer distinctive assortments including the most desired family of exclusive and fashion brands for him, her and home. Macy's is known for such epic events as Macy's 4th of July Fireworks® and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade®, as well as spectacular fashion shows, culinary events, flower shows and celebrity appearances. Building on a 150-year tradition, Macy's helps strengthen communities by supporting local and national charities that make a difference in the lives of our customers.