

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Grand Rapids Public Museum to Host Sensory Friendly Museum Night in October**

**Grand Rapids, MI:** The Grand Rapids Public Museum (GRPM) will open their doors free of charge to families affected with autism and other sensory-processing challenges on **Tuesday, October 4th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** Visitors will receive free general admission on this night, to explore the Museum's three floors of core exhibits at no cost.

Visitors will enjoy a sensory friendly museum environment, special ArtPrize themed activities and a free planetarium show. The Museum will adapt sounds, lighting and activities within the current exhibits to create a low-sensory experience for all. The Chaffee Planetarium will adapt lighting and sounds for an enjoyable, low sensory show.

The GRPM offers fun, hands-on learning opportunities for all ages through a variety of core and traveling exhibits. Visitor favorites include the *Streets of Old Grand Rapids*, an immersive exhibit that transports visitors back to 19th century of downtown Grand Rapids, and *West Michigan Habitats*, that showcases the vast wildlife found in West Michigan.

"We are excited to be able to offer a night at the Museum to those with autism and family members to experience our exhibits in an environment comfortable for them. This allows more community members that wouldn't usually be able to visit the Museum an experience to create lifetime memories from our sensory-friendly exhibits and artifacts," said Dale Robertson, President & CEO of the GRPM.

The Museum is able to host this Sensory Friendly Museum Night through sponsorship from Behavioral Health.

### **Grand Rapids Public Museum**

The Grand Rapids Public Museum is an invaluable, publicly-owned institution that is home to more than 250,000 unique artifacts that tell the history of Kent County and beyond, houses the only planetarium in the region, and is responsible for protecting the Norton Indian Mounds, a national historic landmark. The Grand Rapids Public Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, with its main location in downtown Grand Rapids, MI at 272 Pearl Street, NW. For additional information



including hours of operation, admission fees and exhibit/event listings, please visit [www.grpm.org](http://www.grpm.org).

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