

NEWS

Media contacts:

Joshua Nowak, Director of Sales & Marketing
Lancaster County Convention Center and Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square
josh.nowak@ihrc.com / 717-207-4044

Laura Duran, Public Relations & Social Media Partner
Laura Duran & Associates LLC
laura@lauraduranPR.com / 717-926-4287

Kick off summer with a fun package (and some history too) for the kids

Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square offers 'Nickelodeon Your Stay!'

Lancaster, Pa. (June 8, 2010) – Today the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, part of Lancaster's unrivaled convention center hotel facility, launches its *Nickelodeon Your Stay* package for families, featuring the adorable SpongeBob and Dora the Explorer characters kids love. At check-in, all kids will receive a complimentary Nickelodeon®-themed bracelet, key card, and activity book as well as a kid's cup and activity placemat when dining at the facility's Penn Square Grille (www.pennsquaregrille.com). With additional purchase of a weekend package, children on weekends will receive a SpongeBob-themed activity cinch sack and their own turndown service including a keepsake SpongeBob pillow case and book.

"Our prominence as a destination for business and upscale leisure travel is well known, but we strive to provide enjoyable stays for families with children too," said Josh Nowak, director of sales and marketing. "We're really looking forward to offering this fun program for the kids – who wouldn't love turning in after an exciting day of activities in Lancaster Pa. and finding their very own SpongeBob pillow case on their big fluffy pillow-top bed?"

The greater Lancaster area brims with family-friendly activities including Hershey Park and Dutch Wonderland amusement parks as well as the scenic rural beauty, Amish culture, and agri-tainment venues Lancaster is most famous for. But it also offers a sophisticated mix of preserved historical sites and their profound narratives as well as unique cultural, entertainment, dining, and shopping venues.

The convention center hotel facility, a destination in itself, incorporates historic structures and narratives within and around its own new architecture, offering significant cultural context including being a key site of Pennsylvania's Quest for Freedom trail, which honors the sites and stories of the African American journey to freedom from the time of the Underground Railroad and Civil War to the present day. Eventually the overall project hopes to offer an interactive museum at the Stevens & Smith Historic Site (see www.stevensandsmith.org for additional background). Under the leadership of the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County (HPT), a water-collection cistern was unearthed and preserved during construction that had once been part of the Kleiss Tavern owned by influential Congressman and abolitionist Thaddeus Stevens. In the Vine Street entrance area to the facility, guests behold a view of the preserved cistern, believed by scholars and archeologists to have been a hiding place used by Stevens and business partner Lydia Hamilton Smith to assist Americans escaping slavery along the Underground Railroad.

Booking information

To book a room, visit www.marriottlancaster.com. To book an event at the integrated facility, call Josh Nowak at 717-207-4044. For more information, visit www.lancasterconventioncenter.com and www.marriottlancaster.com.

About ownership of the integrated facility

The Lancaster County Convention Center is a publicly owned entity under the direction of the Lancaster County Convention Center Authority. The Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square is owned by the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Lancaster and leased to Penn Square Partners, the private company that holds the Marriott franchise.

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