



**For more information:**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **Time Travelers go to 165 BCE and Visit the Maccabees**

Re-live the Ancient Miracle of Chanukah in an Interactive Journey. New Show Brings the Story to Life with Live Actors, Elaborate Sets and Special Effects.

**BROOKLYN, NY Nov. 24, 2006** – The brand new Maccabees live Chanukah adventure will debut at the Jewish Children's Museum on November 26, the Museum announced. Maccabees is a fun-filled, interactive experience in which visitors of all ages "tour" ancient Judea during the rule of the Syrian-Greek empire and learn about the miracle of Chanukah. Kids will take an active part in the live drama, kindle a giant menorah, and take home traditional "Sufganiot" (doughnuts) that they decorate themselves.

The Chanukah holiday commemorates the Jews' victory over the mighty Greek empire in the year 139 BCE. After the Greek king, Antiochus, issued oppressive anti-religious decrees against the Jews and desecrated the Holy Temple, a small band of warriors, the Maccabees, joined to fight him, against great odds. Following their miraculous victory, the Maccabees restored the Holy Temple and began to search for pure olive oil with which to kindle the Temple's Menorah. Although they found only enough oil to light the Menorah for one day, the oil miraculously lasted for eight – hence, the eight-day Festival of Lights.

Maccabees at the Jewish Children's Museum explores each pivotal moment of the Chanukah story, beginning with a hilarious ride back in time in a nutty professor's time-machine. Dressed as little Maccabees, children will visit the Syrian-Greek palace and the Judean battlegrounds. Laugh-out-loud dialogue involving the participants captures the attention of children while imparting many valuable lessons on tolerance, faith and moral conviction.

Gershon Eichorn, Director of the Jewish Children's Museum, says the aim of the show is to create "an atmosphere where participants are not on the outside looking in; they are an actual part of the story...each child will really feel the Syrian-Greek challenge to the Jews and take personal pride in the Maccabees' miraculous victory."

During their Maccabees journey, children will:

- **MEET** the evil King Antiochus, in his magnificent palace
- **UNITE** with Judah the Maccabee and his band of fighters in defying the Greek empire
- **FLEE** to the hills and caves to escape the Greek army
- **MARCH** up to reclaim the Holy Temple
- **DISCOVER** the miracle of oil and rekindle the Menorah
- **DECORATE** “Sufganiyot” the traditional doughnut for Chanukah, and
- **LAUGH, LISTEN** and **LEARN** throughout

Maccabees will run at the Jewish Children's Museum from November 26, 2006 through January 7, 2007. Visit [www.jcm.museum](http://www.jcm.museum) or call 718-467-0600 for tickets. For group visits, please call 718-907-8829 or email [maccabees@jcm.museum](mailto:maccabees@jcm.museum).

**PUBLIC SHOW TIMES:**

**Sundays:** Nov. 26, 2006 – Jan. 7, 2007

12:00pm | 1:00pm | 2:30pm | 4:00pm

**Holiday Schedule** (Monday – Thursday): Dec. 18, 2006 – Jan. 1, 2007

12:30pm | 1:30pm | 3:00pm | 4:30pm

Maccabees general admission: \$10 (\$15 includes museum admission)

*The Jewish Children’s Museum is located at 792 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY and is accessible via the B43 bus to Eastern Parkway or the 3 train to Kingston Avenue.*

*The Jewish Children’s Museum is successfully working to bridge the cultural gap in our community through innovative hands-on exhibits and interactive displays. Presenting key Jewish concepts in fun and informative ways, the Museum continues to receive rave reviews from educators, parents and most importantly from children themselves. Visit [www.jcm.museum](http://www.jcm.museum) to find out more.*

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