



**MEDIA ALERT** | For Immediate Release

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## **CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER OPENS NEW ROPES CHALLENGE**

***NEW EXHIBIT ENCOURAGES VISITORS TO "WALK THE PLANK" AND ZOOM DOWN A ZIPLINE***

**PITTSBURGH, June 8, 2017** – Visitors to Carnegie Science Center’s Highmark SportsWorks® facility will defy gravity as they navigate obstacles, "walk the plank," and then zoom down a zipline on the new **Ropes Challenge**, opening to the public on **June 19**. The Ropes Challenge is included with general admission.

The new, single-level challenge is located in the middle of SportsWorks and consists of 11 elements, such as walking a rope bridge, balancing on rolling logs, and climbing across a horizontal net, before reaching the zipline. Beneath the Ropes Challenge is the **SkyTykes** ropes course, designed for younger visitors who want to have an adventure closer to the ground.

Dennis Bateman, Senior Director of Exhibits and Experience at the Science Center says the Ropes Challenge is a good fit with the mission of SportsWorks to offer full-body, immersive experiences, then bring out the science involved.

“The ropes course appealed to us, both for the scale of it, but also for the cross-over science – there’s the physics involved in things like balance and center of mass and inertia, but also the physiology of fear and thrills and perception. How does your brain react to a challenge? What makes you sweat when you are on a difficult challenge, what happens in your body when you overcome a challenge and are flush with success?”

Visitors who wish to enjoy the challenge must be at least 48 inches tall. The SkyTykes course can be enjoyed by guests under 48 inches tall. All visitors must wear closed-toe shoes with backs in order to participate in either of these exhibits.

**About Carnegie Science Center**

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

**About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2016, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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