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Images available upon request.

Winterlights at Newfields shined bright on the community
Thousands of new visitors engaged with Newfields' mission

INDIANAPOLIS, March 28, 2018— Newfields is grateful to the community for its support in launching a new holiday tradition in Indianapolis.

Winterlights, which debuted in November, featured 1.2 million lights in The Garden and welcomed 70,000 guests to the Newfields campus to experience the magic of the season. Nearly 50 percent of guests had not visited in a year or more and 20 percent were first time visitors. During *Winterlights* more than 40 couples got engaged, creating a lifetime of memories and traditions for new families.

"We are thrilled that the community accepted our invitation to *Winterlights*, and made it part of their holiday celebration," said Dr. Charles L. Venable, the Melvin & Bren Simon Director and CEO. "Through programs like *Winterlights*, we are able to engage a broader segment of our community with our mission—to create exceptional experiences with art and nature. Seeing so many people who had never been here was truly rewarding."

The success of *Winterlights* would not have been possible without the support of Newfields' donors and members. Longtime supporter Kay Koch funded the new electrical infrastructure throughout The Garden to help bring *Winterlights* to life. Marianne Williams Tobias funded the music from *The Nutcracker* accompanying the Landscape of Light—a choreographed light show in front of the historic Lilly House. "I was thrilled to be part of *Winterlights*' debut," said Tobias. "In a single year, *Winterlights* became an immediate star in our city's holiday celebration. For me, *Winterlights*' elegant power evoked deep memories of Christmases past, enhanced our Christmas season and will be an abiding part of my family's Christmastime in years to come."

Volunteers donated more than 4,200 volunteer hours to the program and helped with everything from light installation, which began last fall, to greeting guests during the experience.

Community partnerships were also integral to the success of the program. Local Girl Scout troops donated over 900 hours on-site during *Winterlights*, selling s'mores kits to guests and helping to tend to the fire pits in the experience. Troops raised over \$25,000 selling more than 6,000 s'mores kits during the seven-week run. The proceeds will fund summer camp scholarships and international trips for Girl Scouts.

"It was our pleasure to collaborate with our program partners at Newfields; supporting the community where girls live is part of our DNA," said Danielle Shockey, chief executive officer of Girl Scouts of Central Indiana. "Girl Scouts is synonymous with outdoor adventures, so gathering around a campfire during the holiday season was a natural fit for us. As the experts on girls' leadership development, this project reinforced skills that girls learn in Girl Scouts like interpersonal communication, business ethics and problem solving. We are already looking forward to next winter."

Newfields also partnered with nine community organizations, including Flanner House, Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, St. Mary's Child Center and Mid-North Food Pantry, to distribute more than 1,200 free tickets to families in the communities they serve.

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Winterlights will return this November with even more lights in The Garden. Stay tuned for updates at DiscoverNewfields.org.

About Newfields

Newfields offers dynamic experiences with art and nature for guests of all ages. The 152-acre cultural campus features art galleries, lush gardens, a historic home, performance spaces, a nature preserve and sculpture park. From inspiring exhibitions in the IMA Galleries, to concerts in The Toby, to a stroll through The Garden with a glass of something cold, guests are invited to interact with art and nature in exciting new ways. Newfields is home to the Indianapolis Museum of Art, among the ten largest and ten oldest general art museums in the nation; the Lilly House, a National Historic Landmark; The Garden, featuring 40 acres of contemporary and historic gardens, a working greenhouse and an orchard; and The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park: 100 Acres, one of the largest art and nature parks in the country. The Newfields campus extends outside of Indianapolis with Miller House and Garden in Columbus, Ind.—one of the nation’s most highly regarded examples of mid-century Modernist architecture. For more information visit DiscoverNewfields.org.

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