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Media Contact: Julie Estrada
(760) 918-5377
Julie.Estrada@LEGOLAND.com

JENNY McCARTHY JOINS LEGOLAND® CALIFORNIA
IN CREATING A SPECIAL HOLIDAY FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM
Fifth annual tree lighting ceremony dedicated to autism awareness

CARLSBAD, Calif. (Nov. 26, 2007) – Jenny McCarthy and her 5-year-old son Evan flipped the switch to light the world's largest LEGO® holiday tree tonight at LEGOLAND® California. The ceremony, which also featured Carlsbad Firefighters and Santa Claus, brought special meaning to more than 3,000 California families coping with autism as LEGOLAND California's President and General Manager John Jakobsen presented \$10,000 to Talk About Curing Autism (TACA). TACA provides information, resources and support to families throughout California affected by autism, many of which were special guests at tonight's ceremony.

McCarthy's son was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder in 2005 and is the focus of her fourth best-selling book, "Louder than Words – A Mother's Journey in Healing Autism." The actress, comedienne and best-selling author spoke to thousands of LEGOLAND guests tonight, sharing her personal experiences in coping with autism.

Before mother and son lit the 30-foot tall LEGO tree, Santa was escorted in by Carlsbad Firefighters on an antique fire engine, with red light swirling and siren blazing. After McCarthy and Evan pulled the magic switch, music chimed, snow fell and fireworks lit up the sky.

Beginning today, announced Jakobsen, LEGOLAND California is showing support to all fire and law enforcement personnel who battled the devastating wildfires that recently ravaged Southern California by offering all active fire and law enforcement with valid ID and up to three immediate family members a complimentary fun-filled day at LEGOLAND. "LEGOLAND California's Heroic Thanks" runs now through December 25. More information about the program is available online at www.LEGOLAND.com/HeroesWanted.

According to TACA, autism currently affects one in 150 children nationwide and in California, twelve are diagnosed each day. Through direct donations and events, the organization is able to offer monthly education and support meetings in eight locations, parent mentoring, the TACA Autism Journey Guide, as well as seminars and conferences.

More than 245,000 forest green DUPLO® bricks click together to create the holiday tree that can only be seen at the 128-acre family theme park in Carlsbad. For the fifth year in a row, the LEGO brick tree towers over the entrance to LEGOLAND adorned with more than 240 ornaments and 100 holiday candles, all built in LEGO basic brick.

The tree is the centerpiece of the ninth annual Holiday Block Party presented by Volvo Cars of North America at LEGOLAND California, Dec. 22 through Dec. 31, 2007. Unique to this year's celebration is an incredible "holidays around the world" LEGO mosaic welcoming guests across the globe to the family theme park. The theme continues with fireworks above Miniland U.S.A. accompanied by an international holiday soundtrack. Also during the Holiday Block Party, children pose with a life-size LEGO Santa, his sleigh and two reindeer, featuring 51,100 bricks. Of course the "real Santa" will also visit LEGOLAND Dec. 22 through Dec. 24 before heading up to the North Pole.

The holiday season concludes with the one-and-only Kids' New Year's Eve party in Southern California on Dec. 31 with festivities beginning at 3 p.m. For more information on the LEGOLAND theme park, event schedules, hours and prices log onto www.LEGOLAND.com or call (760) 918-LEGO.

LEGOLAND® California is a 128-acre interactive theme park dedicated to families with children between the ages of 2 and 12. With more than 50 rides, shows and attractions, LEGOLAND is geared towards family fun! There are three other LEGOLAND Parks in the world – LEGOLAND Billund in Denmark, LEGOLAND Deutschland near Günzburg, Germany and LEGOLAND Windsor outside of London. The LEGOLAND theme parks are a part of Merlin Entertainments Group, the second largest attractions operator in the world. Merlin Entertainments is the leading name in location based, branded, family entertainment and currently owns more than 50 attractions worldwide serving more than 30 million visitors. For the most current information, log on to www.LEGOLAND.com or call (760) 918-LEGO.

Merlin Entertainments Group is the leading name in location based, family entertainment, and has seen the most successful and dynamic growth of any company in the sector over the last five years. The world's No 2 visitor attraction operator, Merlin aims to deliver memorable and rewarding experiences to its 30 million visitors worldwide, through its iconic global and local brands, and the commitment and passion of its managers and 13,000 employees. Bigger than Universal and second only to Disney, Merlin Entertainments brings together LEGOLAND, Madame Tussauds, British Airways London Eye, SEA LIFE, Gardaland, Dungeons – as well as national brands such as Alton Towers, Thorpe Park, Warwick Castle and Heide Park. All brands which are distinctive, challenging and innovative – and which have great potential for growth in the future.