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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Connecticut Science Center Hosts Annual Gala:

Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, State of Connecticut Honorary Gala Chair

Hartford, CT (October 14, 2011) -- The Connecticut Science Center and Sponsor United Technologies Corporation invite guests to embark on a magical Rainforest adventure at their annual Gala on Saturday, October 22, 2011 from 7-11pm. Experience the Science Center transformed into a magical rainforest and participate in a unique "green"-inspired silent auction. Enjoy open bars and delicious culinary stations inspired by rainforest destinations around the world. There will be a featured performance by internationally acclaimed singer and songwriter Razia Said in her first ever Hartford appearance.

Razia Said began singing for her family in Madagascar at the age of three. At age eleven, Razia went to live with her mother in Gabon, West Africa, where she joined the local church choir. As a teenager, she was sent to boarding school in France, where she played guitar and began writing songs. Seeking stability, Razia obtained her doctorate in pharmacy in France, and has lived in Italy, Bali and Ibiza. She now lives in Harlem, New York where she performs regularly at several of the city's well-known venues. Razia's music delivers soulful melodies, combined with ethnic drumbeats and percussions as she seeks to raise awareness of the critical problem of climate change in her native Madagascar.

The annual Gala will provide great entertainment while fostering the importance of science education as well. Dr. Michael McQuade, Senior Vice President of United Technologies, commented, "United Technologies and the Connecticut Science Center share the same vision in making science accessible and fun for all age groups. And we are absolutely thrilled to be the lead sponsor for this exciting

event and we very much look forward to what we know will be an incredible evening at the Connecticut Science Center.” General admission tickets are \$175. Green Building Benefactor tickets are \$250 and include special benefits. Proceeds will benefit the Connecticut Science Center’s programs to inspire the next generation of creative thinkers and “green” problem-solvers.

The Event is expected to host 700 guests this year and guests will be able to “fund a field trip” with the purchase of a Rainforest Charm for just \$20. Each purchase will send three students from underserved school districts in Connecticut to the Science Center.

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About the Connecticut Science Center The LEED-Gold certified Connecticut Science Center, located in downtown Hartford, sparks creative imagination and an appreciation for science by immersing visitors in fun and educational hands-on, minds-on interactive experiences while maintaining an environmentally conscious presence. Visitors experience over 150 exhibits in ten galleries and a range of topics, including space and earth sciences, physical sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children’s gallery, and much more. Other features include four educational labs, a 200-seat 3D digital theater, function room, gift store and café, and ongoing events and lectures for all ages. The Science Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing science education throughout the state of Connecticut and New England, providing learning opportunities for students and adults of all ages, and engaging the community in scientific exploration.

More information: www.CTScienceCenter.org or 860.SCIENCE.