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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Gymboree Play & Music center opens in Mechanicsburg

Mechanicsburg, PA — September 28, 2015 — Gymboree Play & Music, an early childhood development and play center, recently hosted an open house and celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce.

Founded in 1976 by a California mother looking for age-appropriate activities for young children along with their parents, Gymboree offers just that and more. Now with over 550 locations worldwide, each center features developmental classes and playtime activities for children ages 0-5. The classes, broken into 6 levels by age group, have curriculum developed by experienced child development program directors. "We continue to focus on the whole child in order to help children acquire the key ingredients: motor skills, social skills and self-esteem," explained co-owner Kelli Knisely. "A child's brain is the most active in the first three years, in which time it grows to 80 percent of its adult size," added co-owner Alexis Reachard. "It's essential that parents and caregivers nurture a child's development during this time. Our learning program is an important component to support this development."

While the center is brand new to Mechanicsburg, Knisely and Reachard aren't new to Gymboree. Prior to Mechanicsburg, they owned the business in York County. "We're thrilled to be a part of the Mechanicsburg community and are excited about the move," said Knisely.

Gymboree also has a School Skills program, preparing preschoolers for kindergarten, and a sports program, where children can sample and learn the basics of 8 different sports, for children 3 to 5 years of age. All of Gymboree's programs also offer open play time for children birth to 5 years of age to explore and have fun.

The center is currently accepting enrollments. For more information on the center and its classes, visit www.gymboreeclasses.com or call 717-600-8006.



PHOTO: Owners Kelli Knisely and Alexis Reachard cut the ribbon with Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Jeff Palm. Also pictured are Gymboree staff members Deena Du and Krista Reitnour, Chamber Board President James Hockenberry, Chamber Board VP Michael Giordano, Roundtop Mountain Resort Director of Sales Josh Boltz, and several members of the community.

## About Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce

The Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce supports a variety of community, business and economic development programs throughout the year. It has over 400 business and residential members throughout South Central Pennsylvania; and focuses on the Mechanicsburg Borough, Hampden, Lower Allen, Monroe, Silver Spring and Upper Allen Townships.