



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Sept. 10, 2008

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS, JANUARY – MARCH 2009

PHILADELPHIA—Beat the winter doldrums by beating a path to The Academy of Natural Sciences this winter for a science adventure of fun and learning for the whole family.

A special anniversary dinosaur exhibit, a three-day fossil extravaganza and close encounters with some of the Academy's most popular live animals are in store for visitors. The Academy is the oldest natural science research museum in the Americas and a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. The following activities are **free** with museum admission and enjoyable for both young and old alike:

New Exhibition

"HADROSAURUS FOULKII: THE DINOSAUR THAT CHANGED THE WORLD"

November 22 – April 19, 2009

The dinosaur that changed the world, *Hadrosaurus foulkii*, rises again for a five-month exhibit and celebration of dinosaurs. *Hadrosaurus foulkii* occupies a singular place in the history of American paleontology. At the time of its scientific description in 1858, it was the most complete dinosaur skeleton unearthed and it was found across the river from Philadelphia, in Haddonfield, N.J. When it was placed on exhibit at The Academy of Natural Sciences in 1868, it was the first mounted dinosaur skeleton displayed anywhere in the world. To mark the 150th anniversary of its scientific description, the Academy will remount a cast of this plant-eating dinosaur as the centerpiece of a fascinating exhibit that skillfully blends art, science and history.

ANIMAL HEROS WEEKEND

Saturday-Monday, January 17, 18 & 19, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Animals enrich our lives in many ways, from pollinating fruits to pest control. Meet some of our live animal heroes and see our naturalist presentations at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Don't miss rarely seen Academy specimens from our world-class collections at the Science Live Station. Make an animal hero craft to take home.

PALEOPALOOZA

Saturday-Monday, February 14, 15 and 16, all day

Come celebrate almost 200 years of paleontology as The Academy of Natural Sciences presents "Paleopalooza," a three-day festival of gigantic proportions. Check out "*Hadrosaurus foulkii*: The Dinosaur That Changed the World" and enjoy rarely seen specimens from the Academy's world-famous fossil collection. Meet Academy paleontologists and learn what it's like to reconstruct the past using fossils, imagination and good science. The museum will be filled with activities, crafts, guest speakers and interactive presentations all day, each day.

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HERPETOLOGY WEEKEND
Saturday and Sunday, March 14 and 15, 11 a.m. – 3:30 pm.

Meet the Academy's live reptiles and amphibians and learn the wild stories behind some of the fascinating research specimens from our rarely seen Herpetology Collection. Our volunteers will help you make a slithery craft to take home. Naturalist presentations at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

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The Academy is located at 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and weekends until 5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children ages 3–12, seniors, college students and military personnel, and free for Members and children under 3. There is an additional \$2 entry fee for "Butterflies!"

Founded in 1812, The Academy of Natural Sciences is the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas and is a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. The mission of the Academy is the encouragement and cultivation of the sciences.