

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Contact: Carolyn Belardo 215 299-1043, [belardo@ansp.org](mailto:belardo@ansp.org)

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS, OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2008

### *Featuring anniversary celebration of dinosaur*

PHILADELPHIA—This fall The Academy of Natural Sciences kicks off a months-long celebration of dinosaurs by mounting “*Hadrosaurus foulkii*: The Dinosaur That Changed The World” and hosts the annual Philadelphia Shell Show with a new festival of fun activities for the whole family.

In November, the Academy will remount a cast of the plant-eater *Hadrosaurus foulkii* to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its scientific description. When it was placed on exhibit at the Academy 1868, *Hadrosaurus foulkii* was the first mounted dinosaur skeleton displayed anywhere in the world.

For Halloween, what better way to explore the freaks of nature than to spend the night in the haunted halls and galleries of the oldest natural science museum in America.

The following activities are **free** with museum admission unless otherwise noted:

#### **PHILADELPHIA SHELL SHOW Saturday and Sunday, October 11-12**

Exotic treasures of the seas will be on display and for sale at the annual Philadelphia Shell Show, the largest shell show in the Northeast. Dozens of collectors and amateur scientists will compete for prizes, and craftspeople will showcase their masterpieces. Visitors can shop for the upcoming holidays from an array of stunning shells, shell crafts, jewelry, books and shell-themed accessories. Academy scientists will guide visitors on behind-the-scenes tours through the museum’s world-renowned mollusk collection. Enjoy free shells for kids, naturalist presentations and craft-making. At the same time as the Shell Show, and extending an additional day to Oct. 13, the Academy hosts a Shell Festival, featuring squid dissections and shell games. Free with regular museum admission.

#### **SHELL FESTIVAL Saturday, Sunday and Monday, October 11-13**

The Academy celebrates the annual Philadelphia Shell Show (Oct. 11 and 12) with additional fun activities at the museum’s Science Live Station for three days. Explore the mysteries of cephalopod biology with squid dissections at 11:45 a.m., 1:45 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Play our new Shell Game by matching the shell with the animal that calls it home at 10:30 a.m., noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Free with regular museum admission.

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**HALLOWEEN SPOOK-TACULAR SLEEPOVER**  
**Saturday, October 25, 6:30 p.m. – Sunday, October 26, 9 a.m.**

Celebrate the strange, weird, creepy world of nature. Stay over night in the murky and mysterious Academy of Un-Natural Sciences next to Mesozoic monsters and mummies and find out what other strange creatures lurk the halls and research collections after dark. A costume contest kicks off the evening, with prizes for most creative, scariest and best costume in each age group, as well as a best-group costume prize. Halloween-themed programs and activities involving live (and dead) animals fill the night with fun before you try to go to sleep. For families and groups with children age 6 and up. Cost (includes snack, breakfast and next day admission): Children - \$35 for members, \$40 non-members; Adults - \$30 members, \$35 non-members. To register, call 215-299-1060.

**New Exhibit**  
**“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 months-long 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 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 description, the Academy will remount a cast of this plant-eating dinosaur as the centerpiece of a special exhibit and months-long dinosaur celebration. Free with regular museum admission.

**ALL-STAR WEEKEND**  
**Saturday-Tuesday, December 27, 28, 29 & 30, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

The Academy of Natural Sciences shows off its most popular attractions with live animal shows, museum specimens, craft-making and storytelling during this four-day All Star Weekend. Free with regular museum admission.

**Saturday, Dec. 27, Dinosaur Day**

Knowledgeable naturalists will bring dinosaurs to life with special presentations in Dinosaur Hall. Test your knowledge of dinosaurs at our science stations. Live Animal Show at 11 a.m. Ask the Expert! at 2 p.m. Make a dinosaur craft to take home.

**Sunday, Dec. 28, Animal Day**

Live animals will be roaming the halls (with their handlers) for a close-up meet-and-greet. Live Animal Shows at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Make an animal craft to take home.

**Monday, Dec. 29, Butterfly Day**

Learn about the fascinating life cycle of the butterfly and see an array of butterfly specimens from around the world that will be on display. Live animal shows at 11a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Make a butterfly craft to take home.

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**Tuesday, Dec. 30, Diorama Day**

The drama of the diorama comes to life. Learn the fascinating history of our historic dioramas through storytelling and touching furs and skulls of the diorama animals. Live animal shows at 11 a.m. and 2:30 pm. Make your own diorama craft to take home.

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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.*