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MEDIA ADVISORY/PHOTO OP GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER SCIENCE FAIR, Feb. 25-28

- WHAT:** The Academy of Natural Sciences hosts the 29th annual George Washington Carver Science Fair, one of the largest of its kind in the country with more than 225 entries this year. The fair promotes scientific inquiry and discovery through experiments that the Philadelphia students research and conduct themselves. The experiments are judged by a panel of experts, and an award ceremony is held to announce the winners. Come see what science topics are on the minds of students these days.
- WHO:** More than 225 Philadelphia public, private and parochial elementary schoolchildren in grades four through six compete for prizes.
- WHEN:** Monday, Feb. 25, 2–5 p.m.: Students set up projects in Commons Room

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.: Judges examine the projects and interview the students. Interviews take place 1–4:30 p.m. (*This could be postponed to Feb. 27 if it snows.*)

Thursday, Feb. 28, 1:30–3:30 p.m.: Awards ceremony in auditorium with students, parents and sometimes teachers.
- WHERE:** The Academy of Natural Sciences, 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
- BACKGROUND:** The Academy has been an active partner in the fair with the Philadelphia School District since its inception and has hosted the event since 1979. The fair is named for the African American agricultural chemist, botanist and humanitarian George Washington Carver (1864-1943) whose creative genius led him to develop more than 300 products from the peanut and the sweet potato.

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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 with I.D. and military personnel, and free for children under 3. There is an additional \$2 fee for "Butterflies!"

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