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MEDIA ADVISORY/PHOTO OP

New Arctic-Antarctic Exhibition Opens Saturday, Feb. 9

WHAT: "ENDS OF THE EARTH: FROM POLAR BEARS TO PENGUINS," new exhibition opens to the public with ice sculpting (weather permitting), brave explorers, live Arctic birds and a giant penguin for starters. Visitors will experience the unique nature of Earth's extreme ends through interactive games, mounted penguins and polar bears, touchable animal skulls, real artifacts and fascinating videos of real-life explorers. They will learn how climate change is affecting the poles. Here are some activities taking place Feb. 9:

9 a.m. 400 Academy Members eat cold breakfast and meet Antarctic adventurer Todd Carmichael of Philadelphia, who recently attempted to reach the South Pole.

10 a.m. Sculptor creates animal sculpture out of giant ice block outside front entrance

11 a.m. Todd Carmichael speaks with visitors about his record-breaking South Pole adventure, displays his equipment.

11 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Make a penguin or polar bear craft to take home. **(Also Feb. 10, same time)**
Participate in experiments about temperature drops and cold-weather animals.
(Also Feb. 10, same time)

Noon–2 p.m. Rinky, the Blue Cross RiverRink giant penguin mascot, greets visitors.

2:30 p.m. Live animal shows featuring Arctic animals: Great Horned Owl, Peregrine Falcon, Red-tailed hawk **(Also Feb. 10, 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.)**

WHEN: Saturday, February 9

WHO: The Academy of Natural Sciences

WHERE: 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION AND IMAGES: See
http://www.ansp.org/press/featured_exhibits.php#polar

"Ends of the Earth" is open through April 27, 2008 and is **free** with museum admission. It was produced by Science North in Sudbury, Ontario, and was made possible with support from Quark Expeditions.

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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.