



For Immediate Release

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SCIENCE FOR WHAT ALES YOU

Four Science Museums Join Forces to Brew “Science On Tap”

Philadelphia, PA, April 2, 2009...The newest science café in town is called “Science On Tap.” It is the hip hops creation of four of Philly’s most venerable science institutions—The Academy of Natural Sciences, the American Philosophical Society Museum, the Chemical Heritage Foundation, and the Wagner Free Institute of Science. Located at the landmark National Mechanics Bar and Restaurant (22 North Third Street), “Science on Tap” will invite leading scientists or other experts to give a brief presentation and then launch a group discussion. In this informal setting the goal is to make science accessible, promote lively conversation, and have fun. “Science On Tap” will convene on the second Monday of every month and the museums will rotate responsibility for choosing the evening’s star speaker.

GREAT MINDS DRINK ALIKE

The science café movement began in Leeds, England in 1998 when a local pub decided to foment a new kind of barroom brawl—a scientific debate. The idea took off as a unique way to advance public understanding of science. Now, there are locations from Maine to California where, for the price of a beer or a glass of wine or a cup of coffee, anyone can discuss scientific ideas with leading experts in their fields and learn about developments that are changing our lives.

SUDS AND SCIENCE SCHEDULE

Monday, April 13, 2009 at 6 p.m.

Brenda Casper

“Take Some Fruit and Pass the Seeds”

Casper is a Professor of Biology at the University of Pennsylvania specializing in plant ecology—with research ranging from reproductive biology to physiology to community ecology. Presented by the Chemical Heritage Foundation.

Monday, May 11, 2009 at 6 p.m.

Scott Gilbert

“How The Tortoises Got Their Shells And The Finches Got Their Beaks: The Role of Evo-Devo in Solving Darwin’s Dilemmas”

Gilbert is a Professor of Biology at Swarthmore and a leader in the field of evolutionary developmental biology. Evo-devo compares the developmental processes of plants and animals to try and find the ancestral relationship between them and discover how developmental processes evolved. Presented by the APS Museum.

Monday June 8, 2009 at 6 p.m.

TBA

Presented by the Wagner Free Institute of Science

Monday July 13, 2009 at 6 p.m.

Ted Daeschler

“Cold Hard Science: Fossil Discoveries in the Canadian Arctic and the Origin of Limbed Animals”

Daeschler, Associate Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology at The Academy of Natural Sciences, has done pioneering research, collecting and describing Late Devonian fossil vertebrates in Pennsylvania and the Arctic. Presented by The Academy of Natural Sciences.

For more information on individual programs, please contact the presenting institution.

American Philosophical Society Museum	www.apsmuseum.org
The Academy of Natural Sciences	www.ansp.org
Chemical Heritage Foundation	www.chemheritage.org
Wagner Free Institute of Science	www.wagnerfreeinstitute.org
National Mechanics Bar & Restaurant	www.nationalmechanics.com