



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Room: [www.ansp.org/press](http://www.ansp.org/press)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS, OCTOBER–DECEMBER 2011

#### *Enjoy giant insect sculptures, shells galore, and Dinosaur Days!*

PHILADELPHIA—This fall discover the art within the science—and vice versa—at the Academy of Natural Sciences with a new exhibit celebrating the evolutionary beauty of insects, the annual Philadelphia Shell Show and Festival, and a whole lot more.

*Bugs... Outside the Box*, opening Saturday, Oct. 22, features giant, hand-crafted, anatomically correct sculptures by Italian artist Lorenzo Possenti. Meet Academy scientists and shell collectors from around the world at the annual Philadelphia Shell Show, Oct. 1 and 2, the largest show and marketplace of its kind in the Northeast. Here are the programs and exhibits coming up this fall. All are free with museum admission. Check online for updates at [www.ansp.org](http://www.ansp.org):

#### **Art of Science Gallery Exhibit DUAL NATURE: SCIENCE ILLUSTRATIONS OF DAN OTTE Saturday, August 6–Sunday, December 4**

See through the eyes of a renowned scientist in *Dual Nature: Science Illustrations of Dan Otte*. Dr. Daniel Otte, the Academy's Curator of Entomology and the world's leading expert on grasshoppers and crickets, shares his artistic side through this remarkable collection of animal drawings. From grasshoppers to giraffes, Otte's delightful, detailed sketches provide an unusual glimpse into the intersection between art and science.

#### **PHILADELPHIA SHELL SHOW AND FESTIVAL Saturday and Sunday, October 1 and 2, all day**

Thousands of exotic treasures of the sea will be on display and for sale when the Philadelphia Shell Show washes ashore at the Academy of Natural Sciences. The largest show of its kind in the Northeast, the Shell Show features competitive displays by collectors and amateur scientists; an international market; exotic shells and shell crafts; and behind-the-scenes tours of the museum's world-renowned mollusk collection of 10 million specimens, the third largest in the world. A festival of family activities includes hands-on activities, games, and crafts. Free with museum admission.

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**BUGS... OUTSIDE THE BOX**  
**October 22–January 16, 2012**

Discover the art within the science in *Bugs... Outside the Box*, the Academy's newest exhibit featuring giant, detailed and anatomically correct insect sculptures created by Italian artist Lorenzo Possenti. Examine the intricate details of a butterfly wing, the eye of a dragonfly, and the appendage of a long-horn beetle—all without a microscope. Amazing live insects and colorful insect specimens from the Academy's world-renowned collection will be on display along with their hand-crafted counterparts—some up to 7 feet long. These mini-beasts of nature challenge the popular conception of beauty, and visitors will come to understand why these insects are so important to life on Earth. This exhibit is making its world premiere at the Academy.

**BUGS... OUTSIDE THE BOX OPENING WEEKEND**  
**Saturday and Sunday, October 22 and 23, all day**

Be among the first to see the Academy's new exhibit, *Bugs... Outside the Box* and enjoy special activities for opening weekend. Get a close-up look at some of the Academy's world-renowned insect specimens. Make a buggy craft to take home.

**DINOSAUR DAYS**  
**Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 25, 26 and 27, all day**

Celebrate dinosaurs and their closest living relatives—birds—with a holiday weekend of fun activities. Enjoy dinosaur shows at 11 a.m. and live bird shows at 2:30 p.m., a fossil show at 1:30 p.m. and teacher/naturalist presentations throughout the day in our famous Dinosaur Hall. Make a dinosaur craft to take home.

**ALL STAR WEEK**  
**Tuesday through Friday, December 27-30, 11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., all day**

The Academy of Natural Sciences celebrates its most popular attractions with live animal shows, museum specimens, craft-making and storytelling during this three-day All Star Week.

**Tuesday, Dec. 27, Dinosaur Day**

Academy naturalist 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! Game at 2 p.m. Make a dinosaur craft to take home.

**Wednesday, Dec. 28, Animal Day**

Academy naturalists will roam the museum with our live animals. Ask our experts your questions and have your family picture taken with our birds, snakes and other fascinating animals. Live animal shows at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Make an animal craft to take home.

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**Thursday, Dec. 29, Butterfly Day**

Learn about the fascinating life cycle of the butterfly and see an array of butterfly specimens from the Academy's world-renowned collection. Live animal shows at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Make a butterfly craft to take home.

**Friday, Dec. 30, Weird Things in a Jar Day**

Get a close look at some of the stranger specimens that Academy scientists have collected over the last 200 years. Learn how scientists prepare specimens for study and storage and make your own weird-thing-in-a-jar craft to take home.

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***Founded in 1812**, the Academy of Natural Sciences is America's oldest natural history museum and a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. For nearly 200 years, the Academy has carried out its mission to encourage and cultivate the sciences, exploring the remarkable diversity of our natural world and sharing these discoveries with the public through innovative exhibits, publications, and educational programming.*

*HOURS: Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Saturday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. ADMISSION: \$12 adults; \$10 children 3-12, seniors, college students, and military personnel; free for members and children under 3. \$2 fee for Butterflies!*