

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Note: All requests for media interviews with David Byrne must be sent in advance to Krista Williams of Sacks & Co., krista@sacksco.com.

## PANEL DISCUSSION ON URBAN BICYCLING TO INCLUDE MUSICIAN DAVID BYRNE, ALEX DOTY, KATHERINE GAJEWSKI, AND IGNACIO BUNSTER-OSSA

PHILADELPHIA—A group of diverse panelists will conduct a panel discussion on the intersection of bicycle advocacy, urban planning and civic responsibility on Thursday, Feb. 4, at the Academy of Natural Sciences. Panelists will include musician, artist and author David Byrne; bicycle advocate Alex Doty; city representative Katherine Gajewski, and urban theorist Ignacio Bunster-Ossa. The forum will be moderated by Christine Knapp of PennFuture.

"Cities, Bicycles and the Future of Getting Around" is part of the Academy's Urban Sustainability Forum, an ongoing series of public discussions addressing critical environmental issues facing cities. The Feb. 4 program begins with a reception at 6 p.m., followed by a panel discussion from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. There are no seats remaining, but those wishing to attend can sign on to a waiting list at <a href="mailto:davidbyrneusf.eventbrite.com/">davidbyrneusf.eventbrite.com/</a>. Those on the waiting list will be notified if seats become available.

The panelists will discuss the intersection of bicycle advocacy, urban planning, civic responsibility, and the pleasure derived from seeing the world from the vantage point of a bicycle seat. Public input is welcomed.

Byrne's recent book, *Bicycle Diaries*, is an account of his urban bicycle odyssey through the streets of Istanbul, Buenos Aires, London, Berlin, Paris, Belgrade, Sydney, Manila, New York City, and San Francisco. Since the early 1980s, Byrne has chosen to navigate the busy streets of New York on two wheels, and he often carts around his folding bike on music tours. *Bicycle Diaries* features photographs, personal anecdotes, and a strong argument for the way a bicycle can change a person's interaction with the world on a daily basis. For more information see <a href="http://www.davidbyrne.com/bicyclediaries">http://www.davidbyrne.com/bicyclediaries</a>.

Moderator Christine Knapp is director of Outreach Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future. Knapp also is the liaison for <a href="PennFuture">PennFuture</a>'s legal and grassroots support and serves on the Mayor's Sustainability Advisory Board.

Alex Doty is executive director of the <u>Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia</u>, a regional non-profit education and advocacy organization that promotes bicycling as a healthy, low-cost and environmentally friendly form of transportation and recreation. The coalition manages a number of projects and campaigns to get more bike lanes and trails built across the region.

Katherine Gajewski, Philadelphia's director of sustainability, is responsible for implementing <u>Greenworks Philadelphia</u>, the city's ambitious, comprehensive sustainability plan aimed at addressing 15 goals, including reducing vehicle miles traveled.

Ignacio F. Bunster-Ossa, an urban theorist and principal with <u>Wallace Roberts & Todd</u>, <u>LLC</u>, a national planning and design firm based in Philadelphia. Bunster-Ossa specializes in the revitalization and enhancement of urban areas through open space and landscape interventions. He is a committed "vehicular cyclist" and has been commuting by bike from his West Philadelphia home to his downtown office for 10 years.

The Urban Sustainability Forum is a regular series of presentations sponsored by a coalition of organizations and government agencies working to make Philadelphia the greenest, most livable city in America. For more information on the USF and its member organizations, visit <a href="https://www.ansp.org/environmental/2008/09/about-the-urban-sustainability-forum/">www.ansp.org/environmental/2008/09/about-the-urban-sustainability-forum/</a>.

Founded in 1812, the Academy of Natural Sciences is the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas. Located in the heart of Philadelphia's cultural district, the Academy is known for its scientific research, collections, exhibitions, and educational programs.

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The Academy of Natural Sciences, founded in 1812, is the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas. Our mission is the encouragement and cultivation of the sciences

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 until 5 p.m. on weekends. Admission is: \$12 for adults, \$10 for children ages 3-12, seniors, college students and military personnel, and free for children under 3. There is a \$2 fee for Butterflies!