

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
of DREXEL UNIVERSITY

news



Get Your Fossil on at the Academy's Paleopalooza February 18 and 19

PHILADELPHIA (February 2, 2012) –Get your fossil on at Paleopalooza, an annual two-day festival of gigantic proportions at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 18 and 19.

Paleopalooza features rarely seen fossils from the Academy's world-renowned collections as well as displays from the Delaware Valley Paleontological Society. Visitors will meet Academy scientists and learn what it's like to reconstruct the past using fossils, imagination, and sound science. Hands-on activities, crafts, tours, and interactive presentations provide fun and learning for all ages.

Catch a live show with paleontologist Dr. Scott Sampson, star of the hit PBS children's series "Dinosaur Train." Join Dr. Scott for an all-ages presentation full of "Dinosaur Train" fun at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday. On Sunday at 3 p.m., see "Dr. Scott Sampson: New Discoveries," a talk for the young adult and adult dinosaur enthusiast. Tickets to all the presentations must be purchased in advance. The fee is \$7.50 per person. For more information and to purchase tickets, <http://www.ansp.org/paleopalooza/advanced-non-members.php> or call 215-229-1000.

Except for the "Dinosaur Train" presentations, all the other activities at Paleopalooza are free with museum admission. Here are just a few of the many activities to be enjoyed:

- Watch as fossil preparators in the Fossil Prep Lab work to reveal a new species of Patagonian dinosaur.
- Meet a 15-foot-long animatronic *T-rex* from *Field Station: Dinosaurs*.
- Meet the people that make up the Academy's Vertebrate Paleontology Department and see the fossils that they care for and study.
- Take a guided tour of Dinosaur Hall. Tours begin at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., and 4 p.m.
- Cheer on your favorite custom-made, hot-rod trilobite. Every 30 minutes starting at 10:30 a.m.
- Learn about the fossil record and make your own fossil-inspired CD cover.
- Play a paleontologist in the *Big Dig*.
- Play Dinosaur CSI and solve a mystery that happened more than 65 million years ago.

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News media contact:

Carolyn Belardo, Senior Communications Manager, The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University
Phone: 215-299-1043, Belardo@ansp.org, | Press Room: www.ansp.org/press

Founded in 1812, the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University is America's oldest natural history museum and a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. For 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! PHONE: 215-299-1000

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