

Press Release



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Experience the difference with “*Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*” at ArtScience Museum *Impressive lineup of engaging and interactive programming launched*

Singapore (23 January, 2014) – Visitors to “*Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*” can look forward to a multi-dimensional experience as the exhibition opens its doors at ArtScience Museum on 25 January 2014. The never-before seen exhibition, which creatively brings together four exhibitions, will run until 27 July 2014.

Presented through the ArtScience lens, “*Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*” takes visitors back in time more than 600 million years covering the era before dinosaurs walked the earth all the way until their extinction. Visitors will gain a deeper understanding of how species evolved and adapted to changing environmental conditions.

“The world of dinosaurs has always fascinated and intrigued many of us. There is no better way to satisfy the curiosity of children and adults at this visually stimulating exhibition than introducing them to a host of interactive activities tailored to suit different audiences and learning styles. The team has once again put our unique stamp on the exhibition by creatively combining Art and Science and presenting it through an engaging manner in the programming,” said Mr Ross Leo, Associate Director, ArtScience Museum.

The museum has crafted a unique exhibition that merges the amazing exhibition displays with engrossing programmes, interactive workshops and special guided tours that

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complement and engage visitors of all ages. Specially developed by ArtScience Museum, the activities aim to deepen visitors' knowledge of dinosaurs and their ancestors.

One of the unique programming arranged by ArtScience Museum is '*Shadow Puppets Alive!*' where visitors can try their hands at creating their own *Bullockornis* or *Megalania* shadow puppet to bring home.

Visitors who aspire to be or wish to understand the work of a paleontologist can take part in a hands-on demonstration, '*A day in the life of a Paleontologist*'. During the demonstration, members of the audience will have numerous opportunities to participate, including handling tools and specimens, cleaning fossils, identifying bones and making a plaster cast from a dinosaur's footprint.



Stop Motion Dinosaur Wipe-out!

A series of engaging workshops and performances is also organized for visitors:

- '*Stop Motion Dinosaur Wipe-out!*' – Film and dinosaur enthusiasts can create their own stop motion animation based on one of the main theories of mass dinosaur extinction: asteroid impact, climate change or volcanic eruptions.
- '*Dinosaur Tale*' - Presented by local puppet theatre company, Paper Monkey Theatre, visitors will be taken on a journey of how animal life adapted over 600 million years, presented through magical puppetry.
- '*Sketch-a-fossil*' - A drawing workshop conducted by Isabelle Desjeux, a scientist turned artist, who brings fossils to life by having visitors draw them in detail and placing the art piece in a pre-historic landscape.
- '*Sculpture Fun*' - Visitors can try their hands at carving their own sculpted fossil, be it a shell or bone, out of soap to bring home.

Marking the opening weekend of this amazing exhibition, visitors have the opportunity to get up-close and personal with Dr. Patricia Vickers-Rich and other invited guests. Learn from these experts through taking part in several special guided tours and talks on the first two opening days of the exhibition (25-26 January 2014):

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Special Guided Tours

(25 and 26 January 2014; 12:30pm, 1.30pm and 4:30pm; beginning at the first gallery of *Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*)

Embark on a guided tour to explore the living habits of dinosaurs and be introduced to the extraordinary creatures that roamed the earth. Gain insight into how the paintings of dinosaurs and their surroundings displayed at the exhibition were reconstructed through leveraging scientific evidence.

Exhibition Talk - *The Paleontological Camera*

(25 January 2014; 2.30pm to 4pm; held at Expression Gallery, Level 4 of ArtScience Museum)

Curator Dr. Patricia Vickers-Rich and artist Peter Trusler talk about their collaboration to bring to life visuals from as far back as 600 million years ago through their “paleontological camera”.

Exhibition Talk – *The Origins of Dinosaurs*

(25 January 2014; 5.30pm to 6.30pm; held at Expression Gallery, Level 4 of ArtScience Museum)

Learn about the fascinating origins of dinosaurs through an illustrated talk presented by Dr. Oscar Alcober, Director of San Juan National Science Museum.

For a complete listing of dates and times with all ArtScience Museum programming, please visit www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum.

ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is known as the museum that celebrates creativity, the processes at the heart of art and science, and their role in shaping society. The Museum seeks to understand what drives creative people, how they acquire and use their skills, and how the world around us is changed because of it. ArtScience Museum presents exhibitions and programmes to deliver these stories using a combination of beautiful design, intriguing content and intellectual discussion, in order to inspire the creativity in all of us.

Featuring 21 gallery spaces totaling 50,000 square feet, the boldly iconic lotus-inspired ArtScience Museum is also the premier venue for major international touring exhibitions from the most renowned collections in the world. Since it opened in 2011, ArtScience Museum has been home to some of the best-attended exhibitions in Singapore, including “*Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition*”, “*Harry Potter: The Exhibition*”, “*Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal*”, “*Dali: Mind of a Genius*”, “*The Art of the Brick*” and “*Mummy: Secrets of the Tomb*”. Recent exhibitions include “*Essential Eames: A Herman Miller Exhibition*” and “*The Little Black Jacket*”.

ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands was awarded TripAdvisor’s Certificate of Excellence in 2013. This recognition places the museum amid a select group of attractions that have been recognized by worldwide travelers for providing outstanding tourist experiences.

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands, which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

About the American Museum of Natural History

The American Museum of Natural History is one of the world's preeminent scientific, educational, and cultural institutions. Since its founding in 1869, the museum has advanced its global mission to discover, interpret and disseminate information about human cultures, the natural world, and the universe through a wide-ranging program of scientific research, education, and exhibition. The museum accomplishes this ambitious goal through its extensive facilities and resources. The institution houses 45 permanent exhibition halls, state-of-the-art research laboratories, one of the largest natural history libraries in the Western Hemisphere, and a permanent collection of more than 32 million specimens and artifacts. With a scientific staff of more than 200, the museum supports research divisions in Anthropology, Paleontology, Invertebrate and Vertebrate Zoology, and the Physical Sciences. The museum, which was rated number one in New York City in the Zagat Survey's first-ever U.S. Family Travel Guide, as well as the number three most popular U.S. destination, shared its treasures and discoveries with approximately five million on-site visitors from around the globe last year.

The exhibition segment *Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries* was organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, in collaboration with the Houston Museum of Natural Science; the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; The Field Museum, Chicago; and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh. For more information on the American Museum of Natural History and its collections, exhibitions, and educational programs, please visit www.amnh.org.

About PrimeSCI!

PrimeSCI! is a group at Monash University which interfaces imaginative research-active and passionate scientists with students, their teachers, their friends and the general public. Programs of the PrimeSCI! take these people into labs, the field, onto the net, and into the classrooms and lecture halls to explore how science works and what it is able to offer each and everyone. PrimeSCI! connects science and technology with disciplines such as the arts, politics, economics and law. One of the programs associated with PrimeSCI!, which develops and travels exhibitions, is SCI!Expo, the source of some of the spectacular specimens in *Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*. For more information, visit <http://primesci.monash.edu.au/>

About San Juan National Science Museum

The University Natural Science Museum, which belongs to the National University of San Juan Argentina was founded in 1971 basically to protect, study and search for fossils in the legendary dinosaurs backyard called Ischigualasto, a UNESCO World Heritage site, located at the foothills of the Andes in the west of Argentina. The museum also exhibits a valuable collection of minerals and rocks. The fossils collected by scientists and artists at the San Juan Museum were specially curated to depict life 230 to 210 million years ago during the Triassic period. Creatures, from gigantic terrestrial protocoelociles to some of its weirdest ancestors, were sculpted and are on display at the museum. For more information, visit <http://www.unsj.edu.ar>

For Images (download link expires on 22 Feb 2014):

<http://www.hightail.com/download/eINKeFVmcGt3NUkxZXNUQw> (Credits to Marina Bay Sands)