



SUMMER 2009

PROGRAM CALENDAR

National Museum of Natural History



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History



July – September
Artful Animals
panel 5



9/12
Since Darwin:
The Evolution of Evolution
panel 6



9/19
Hispanic Heritage Month
Celebration
panel 6

JULY

Become a
Charter Member
 of the National Museum of
 Natural History:
www.mnh.si.edu/charter

Weekend Tours of the Sant Ocean Hall

Location: Entrance to *The Sant Ocean Hall*
 Date: Every Saturday and Sunday
 Time: 11:00am and 2:00pm

-  Tickets Required
-  Guided Tours
-  Scientist Is In

1

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday		
			1 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm Smithsonian Folklife Festival	2 Smithsonian Folklife Festival		4 Smithsonian Folklife Festival		
5 Smithsonian Folklife Festival	6	7 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	8 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm	9 Artful Animals: 1:00-3:00pm <i>Mammals Hall</i>	<div data-bbox="1383 160 1851 608"> <p>2009 Smithsonian Folklife Festival</p> <p>July 1 – 5, 2009</p> <p>The Festival is held outdoors on the National Mall between the Smithsonian Museums. There is no admission charge. Themes of the 2009 Festival are: "Giving Voice," "Las Americas," and "Wales." Visit the Folklife Festival Website at: http://festival.si.edu/</p> </div>			
12 Artful Animals 1:00-3:00pm <i>Mammals Hall & African Voices</i>	13	14 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	15 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm	16			17	11 Second Saturday Arts and Science: Painting an Ocean Mural 12:00-3:00pm
19 Artful Animals: 10:00am-12:30pm, <i>African Voices</i> 1:00-3:00pm, <i>Mammals Hall</i>	20	21 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	22 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm	23 Artful Animals: 10:00am-12:30pm, <i>African Voices</i> 1:00-3:00pm, <i>Mammals Hall</i>			18 Artful Animals 10:00am-12:30pm, <i>African Voices</i>	
26 Artful Animals 10:00am-12:30pm, <i>African Voices</i>	27	28 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	29 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm	30 Artful Animals 10:00am-12:30pm, <i>African Voices</i>			24 Artful Animals 10:00am-12:30pm, <i>African Voices</i>	25 Artful Animals 10:00am-12:30pm, <i>African Voices</i>
				31 Artful Animals 10:00am-12:30pm, <i>African Voices</i> Forensic Friday 1:00-5:00pm, <i>Written in Bone</i>				

**Summer Extended
 Museum Hours**

AUGUST












Extended hours through Sunday, September 6:
10:00am until 7:30pm, except on evenings
when a special event is scheduled.

Visit www.mnh.si.edu/calEvents/hours.asp
for early closings (at 5:30pm) when special
events are scheduled.

Regular hours of 10:00am until 5:30pm
resume on September 7, 2009.

-  **Tickets Required**
-  **Guided Tours**
-  **Scientist Is In**



sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
						1
2 Artful Animals 1:00-3:00pm, <i>African Voices</i> 	3	4 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	5 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm 	6		8 Second Saturday Arts and Science: Sustainable Seafood Cooking Demo for Kids 2:00-3:00pm 
9 Artful Animals 1:00-3:00pm, <i>African Voices</i> 	10	11 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	12 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm 	13		15
16 	17	18 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	19 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm 	20		22
23 	24 	25 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	26 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm 	27		29
	30	31			Forensic Friday 1:00-5:00pm, <i>Written in Bone</i> 	

The Scientist Is In

Every Wednesday at 1:00pm

Date: Every Wednesday
Time: 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Location: *The Sant Ocean Hall* and other Exhibition Halls (various locations)
Ask at the Information Desk for location. Please visit www.mnh.si.edu/calendar.asp for more information.

Stationed within an exhibition, a Museum expert shows collection specimens or artifacts and talks with visitors about travels, field studies, collection of specimens, new discoveries, favorite topics of study and more.

Free and open to the public

SEPTEMBER

 Tickets Required
 Guided Tours
 Scientist Is In

3

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
		1 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	2 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm 	3	4	5 
6 	7 Labor Day: Summer Hours End	8 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	9 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm 	10	 <p>WE'VE GONE SOCIAL! Extend your museum experience through Facebook, Flickr, YouTube and Twitter. www.mnh.si.edu</p>	12 Second Saturday Arts & Science 1:00-4:00pm <i>Since Darwin: The Evolution of Evolution Grand Opening Darwin Anniversary Symposium</i> 8:30am-5:00pm
13 	14  <small>Photo by Chip Clark, Smithsonian Institution</small>	15 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	16 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm 	17		19 Museum's Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration 
20 	21	22 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	23 The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm 	24  <small>Photo by Chip Clark, Smithsonian Institution</small>		25 Forensic Friday 1:00-5:00pm, <i>Written in Bone</i> 
27 	28	29 Dig It! Activities 11:00am-2:00pm	30 Discovery Theater: <i>Mother Africa and Artful Animals</i> 10:15 and 11:30am, Baird Auditorium   The Scientist Is In 1:00-3:00pm			



Who is it related to?
low BIG for um... is it?

The Sant Ocean Hall

The Weekend Tours of The Sant Ocean Hall

Date: **Every Saturday & Sunday**
Time: **11:00am & 2:00pm**
Location: **The Sant Ocean Hall**



Look for our Navigator in the navy blue vest at the rotunda entrance to *The Sant Ocean Hall*. Tours begin promptly at 11am and 2pm and are approximately 40 minutes long.



The Sant Ocean Hall Navigators

Navigators, wearing navy blue vests with a whale's tail logo, are stationed in *The Sant Ocean Hall* daily during regular Museum hours to answer visitors' questions.



Second Saturday Arts and Science

A monthly series of programs with themes for children and families featuring connections between science and the arts.

PAINTING AN OCEAN MURAL WITH ARTIST JANE BETTISTEA

Date: **Saturday, July 11**
Time: **12:00 noon – 3:00pm** *Free and open to the public*
Location: **The Sant Ocean Hall**

The painterly arts have long sought themes of the sea. Join local art teacher Jane Bettistea and find your muse in the creation of an ocean-themed mural. Painting as a community of Museum visitors, the task at hand is to sing with color and shape the magic of the world's ocean.

SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD COOKING DEMO FOR KIDS WITH HEIDI HANSON

Date: **Saturday August 8**
Time: **2:00 – 3:00pm** *Free and open to the public*
Location: **The Sant Ocean Hall**

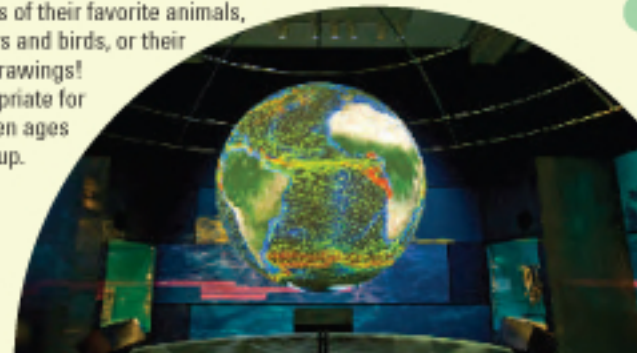
Join Heidi Hanson, producer of the PBS series, *Chefs AField*, and learn about sustainable seafood. Learn how to choose, what to choose, and get to know your fish. View an episode from the James Beard Award winning program, *Chefs AField*. Ages 8 and up.



CREATE YOUR OWN NATURE BIO-JOURNAL!

Date: **Saturday, September 12**
Time: **1:00 – 4:00pm** *Free and open to the public*
Location: **Ground Floor**

Guided by local artist and author Edwin Fontanez, children will create Bio-Journals to record their observations of nature, decorating them with rubber stamps of their favorite animals, flowers and birds, or their own drawings! Appropriate for children ages 4 and up.



Photos by Chip Clark and James DiLoreto, Smithsonian Institution

The Johnson IMAX Theater

For showtimes and tickets, visit www.smithsonian.org/imax

Dinosaurs 3D: Giants of Patagonia



Dinosaurs 3D takes audiences on an unprecedented and unique 3D journey into the world of the largest known dinosaurs and in the process explores some of the the great paleontological discoveries of modern times.

Deep Sea 3D



Get an up close and personal encounter with some of the strangest and most exotic creatures on Earth. In addition to viewing extraordinary animals such as the rainbow nudibranch and giant Pacific octopus, audiences will learn how each creature depends on another for survival and how the cooperation between these ocean dwellers is vital to the existence of this aquatic neighborhood.

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian

Time: **Every evening**

When the natural history museum in New York closes for renovations, the museum artifacts move to the big leagues: our very own Smithsonian Institution. Adventure and chaos ensue as the collections come to life.



This follow-up to the 2006 blockbuster features five Smithsonian museums and highlights treasures from the National Museum of Natural History.

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian: The IMAX Experience features an all-star cast including Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Amy Adams, Robin Williams, Steve Coogan, Jonah Hill, Christopher Guest, Hank Azaria and Dick Van Dyke.



COMING IN SEPTEMBER

Wild Ocean 3D

"Wild Ocean 3D" will open at the Johnson IMAX Theater in September.

Artful Animals

Artful Animals is a collaborative program between the National Museum of Natural History, the National Museum of African Art, the National Postal Museum, the National Zoological Park, and the Smithsonian's Discovery Theater. The project is named for the exhibition,



Artful Animals, on view at the National Museum of African Art from July 1, 2009 to February 21, 2010. The exhibition explores how African artists throughout history have created powerful works of art using images of animals.



Artful Animals Discover Stations will be in the Museum's *Kenneth E. Behring Family Hall of Mammals* and *African Voices* exhibits during specified times.

Please view calendar (reverse) for dates and times.

Free and open to the public

On September 30, in conjunction with *Artful Animals*, Discovery Theater presents two special performances of *Mother Africa* in Baird Auditorium, followed by visits to the *African Voices* and *Mammals Halls*. Times: 10:15 and 11:30am. Tickets required: visit www.residentassociates.org for tickets.



Summer at the Naturalist Center in Leesburg, Virginia



A family learning center in Leesburg, Virginia, the Naturalist Center is designed especially for budding scientists as a “hands-on, minds-on” study center with activities for ages 10 and older. The Main Study Gallery boasts a “library” of 36,000 natural history

specimens to examine in detail. Find books and scientific tools, plus a trained staff to help. “*Museum Mysteries*” will test your detective skills.

Bring your summer outdoor finds to the Naturalist Center and learn more about them through a process of inquiry.

The Naturalist Center is located at:
741 Miller Drive SE, Suite G2
Leesburg, VA 20175

For more information, please call 703-779-9712 or 800-729-7725 or email natcentr@si.edu

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10:30am until 4:00pm

**Closed: Thursday, July 3 and Friday, July 4
Saturday, September 5 – Monday, September 21
(reopens on Tuesday, September 22)**

September 15
to October 15

Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

Date: **Saturday, September 19, 2009**

Time: **11:00am – 4:00pm**

Free and open to the public

Location: **Gallery and Baird Auditorium,
Ground Floor**



Celebrate the coastal cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean through cultural performances and hands-on activities!

Since Darwin: The Evolution of Evolution

Location: **First Floor**

Exhibit: **September 12, 2009 – July 18, 2010**

Celebrate with us the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of his groundbreaking *On the Origin of Species*. This exhibition focuses on the significant role that Darwin's theories have played in explaining and unifying all the biological sciences. Specimens from the Museum's diverse collections, along with documentation from our ongoing research, illustrate the importance of evolution as a scientific foundation, and how our knowledge of evolution has evolved over the last 150 years.

**GRAND
OPENING**
Sat. Sep. 12

Darwin Anniversary Symposium

Date: **Saturday, September 12, 2009**

Time: **8:30am – 5:00pm** *Free and open to the public*

Location: **Baird Auditorium, Ground Floor**

Natural History Museum scientists Dr. Douglas Erwin (curator, Department of Paleobiology) and Dr. Hans-Dieter Sues (associate director for Research and Collections) host a symposium celebrating the bicentennial of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of his book, *On the Origin of Species*. This all-day event features talks by internationally renowned experts from the Museum and other institutions.

MORNING SESSION: 8:30am – 12:00noon

-Introduction by: Cristián Samper (director, NMNH)
-Presentations by: Janet Browne (Department of the History of Science, Harvard University), Jonathan Coddington (Department of Entomology, NMNH), Gene Hunt (Department of Paleobiology, NMNH), Jim Lake (Molecular Biology Institute, University of California at Los Angeles) and Peter Crane (Department of Geophysical Sciences, University of Chicago)

AFTERNOON SESSION: 1:30 – 5:00pm

-Presentations by: Naomi Pierce (Museum of Comparative Zoology and Department of Organismal and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University), Per Ahlberg (Evolutionary Biology Centre, Uppsala University), Hans Sues (associate director for Research and Collections, NMNH), and Richard Potts (Department of Anthropology, NMNH)

Closing with a general discussion moderated by Drs. Erwin and Sues.





Photo by John Steiner/Joseph Eshman

Dig It! The Secrets of Soil

Location: **Second Floor**
Exhibit: **closes January, 2010**

Journey into the skin of the earth and explore the amazing world of soil in this exciting exhibit. Visitors will discover the connections between soils and everyday life, and think about this hidden world in a whole new way.

Dig It! Activities

Dates: **Every Tuesday**
Times: **11:00am – 2:00pm**
Location: **Dig It! Exhibition, Second Floor**

Volunteers with carts are stationed in the exhibition to answer questions and engage visitors in special activities. Look for volunteers every Tuesday between 11:00am and 2:00pm. Visit our Website or ask at the Information Desk for other times of activities in this exhibition.



Photo by L. Clarke/Corbis

Insect Zoo

Location: **Second Floor**

The *O. Orkin Insect Zoo* is a special exhibit hall on the 2nd floor of the Museum where visitors can observe live insects. Volunteers conduct tarantula feeding demonstrations, work with live insects that visitors may touch and hold, and answer questions about the many-legged creatures that live in the *Insect Zoo*.

Live tarantula feeding demonstrations:
Tuesday – Friday, at 10:30am, 11:30am, and 1:30pm

Farmers, Warriors, Builders: The Hidden Life of Ants

Location: **Second Floor**
Exhibit: **closes October 10, 2009**

Did you know that some ants grow their own food, just like farmers? Or that other ants build highways that can be seen from the air? Or that large ant colonies go to war with each other? Get a look at life from an ant's point of view with

large-format photographs of ants going about their daily business, a cast of an underground ant city, and a live ant colony.



© Mark W. Moffett/Minden Pictures



Photos by Chip Clark, Smithsonian Institution

Butterflies + Plants Partners in Evolution

Location: **Second Floor**

Discover how natural selection has shaped animals and plants together through their ancient and persistent need to depend on, and defend themselves against, one another. Admission to the *Partners in Evolution* exhibit is **FREE!**

In the *Butterfly Pavilion*, take a stroll among live butterflies and exotic plants. Located adjacent to *Partners in Evolution*, this tropical oasis offers visitors a rare opportunity to get close to a variety of living butterflies from all over the world. Admission to the live butterfly experience is fee-based.*

*Tickets available at www.butterflies.si.edu/tickets/ and at the Butterfly Pavilion and IMAX ticket counters.
*Free admission on Tuesdays.



Written in Bone: Forensic Files of the 17th-Century Chesapeake

Location: **Second Floor**
Exhibit: **closes February 6, 2011**

Human anatomy and forensic investigation provide intriguing information on people and events of America's past. This exhibition examines history through 17th century bone biographies, including those of colonists teetering on the edge of survival at Jamestown, Virginia, and in those of wealthy and well-established individuals of St. Mary's City, Maryland. At no other time in history have we had the technological capability or the opportunities now available to help us tell these tales.

Web Highlight

On the Web ...

The Secret in the Cellar: A Written in Bone Forensic Mystery from Colonial America

Webcomic based on a true story

www.writteninbone.si.edu/comic



Forensic Fridays

Date: **Friday, July 31, August 28, and September 25, 2009**

Time: **1:00pm – 5:00pm** *Free and open to the public*

Location: **Forensic Anthropology Lab, Second Floor,
Written in Bone Exhibition**

Join Smithsonian forensic scientists and specialists as they study current cases and those from the historic past. Take advantage of this opportunity to ask forensic investigators questions and observe first-hand their basic methods for documentation.

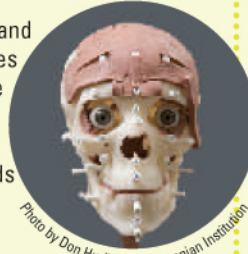


Photo by Don Huribert, Smithsonian Institution

Friday, July 31

Find out how breaks, blows, and other serious injuries affect our bones. See how modern cases of trauma are used to reinterpret the past.

Friday, August 28

Join Smithsonian forensic ornithologists as they identify bird species involved in birdstrikes (bird/aircraft collisions). Ask the researchers questions and observe first-hand the basic methods of identifying bird species using only feather evidence.

Friday, September 25

Find out how forensic facial reconstruction works. Watch a forensic facial reconstruction being made and see how the likeness of an individual is created from the skull.

The Forensic Lab

Located in the *Written in Bone* exhibit is the Forensic Anthropology Lab, where visitors learn that forensic science is far more mysterious and engaging than forensic fiction. Learn to identify and describe the gender and status of people from the past and draw conclusions about their lives through investigation of real human bones. Explore the ways insects and other critters are used in forensic science to solve forensic cases.

Forensic programs for school groups resume in September and require reservations and special logistical considerations.

Visit: www.mnh.si.edu/education and click on "New! Forensic Lab" for reservations and more information.

Public summer hours, through Labor Day, in the Forensic Anthropology Lab are:

**11:00am-5:00pm on
Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday and Friday**

**11:00am-4:00pm on
Saturday & Sunday
Closed Wednesday**



Photo by Chip Clark,
Smithsonian Institution



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

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Tel: (202) 633-1000

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<http://tinyurl.com/nmnh-newsletter>



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www.fsc.org
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The National Museum of Natural History strives to make its programs and facilities accessible to all visitors. The accessible entrance for the museum is on Constitution Ave. If you would like to request an accessibility service such as sign language interpretation or real time captioning, please call (202) 633-1077 (voice) or send an e-mail to ramsdell@si.edu at least two weeks in advance of the program.

Front cover photo by Matt Wilson/Sea Clark NOAA "Zooplankton: Octopus."