CATALYST

DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE MAGAZINE
SPRING 2018











INSIDE ///

DEAD SEA SCROLLS
CREATURES OF LIGHT
AMERICA'S MUSICAL JOURNEY 3D



NOW SHOWING IN PHIPPS IMAX THEATER

Buy tickets @ dmns.org/imax • Don't miss Pandas 3D, opening April 6!

THANK YOU FOR BEING A MEMBER!

For more than 45 years, the Denver Museum of Nature & Science has been fortunate to receive incredible support from members like you. When the membership program was established in 1972, about 600 people joined in the first year, a wonderful response. Today, you and 57,000 member households boost



all that we do. Last year alone, we served 1.8 million people at the Museum and through offsite programs.

While we are pleased to offer members with many special benefits to enjoy at the Museum, membership is truly a partnership. Some members are unaware how financial support from memberships is vital to making the Museum a vibrant cultural center in metro Denver. In addition, you invest in other opportunities, such as Colorado Gives Day, Cars Helping Charities, special appeals for scientific research projects, and unique projects to enhance our building, such as the Volunteer Engagement Center. You also make an impact when you purchase items in the Museum Shops and the T-Rex Cafe and Coffee Lab.

Your support not only lights and heats our giant facility each day, but it also allows us to be responsive when scientific discoveries need immediate action. You ensure that every school group or organized youth group can visit for free, and our precious scientific collections can be preserved for generations to come. You are literally helping bring the world to Denver through amazing exhibitions, such as Dead Sea Scrolls.

The staff and volunteers are excited about hosting this exhibition because it is a rare opportunity for our community to see authentic scrolls and artifacts that have impacted history. We are grateful to our presenting sponsor the Sturm Family Foundation, as well as Henry and Lorie Gordon, and GHP Investment Advisors for their major support.

We look forward to seeing you here for Dead Sea Scrolls, as well as at Creatures of Light and the other exciting exhibitions, events, and programs we have planned for you this year. Thank you for joining us in our commitment to making the Museum a catalyst for discovery for our community year after year.

George Sparks President and CEO president@dmns.org

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FIND IT @ DMNS.ORG

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Join Our Community:









ON THE COVER

Behind the scenes in the anthropology collections Cuneiform tablets

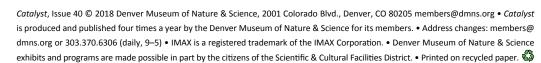
Mesopotamia (modern southern Irag) ca. 2750-2350 BCE

These small clay tablets represent some of the earliest forms of writing, recording everyday information, such as harvests and receipts for goods.

From left: A440.8, AN-2018-28.1, A554.3, A499.5, A554.4



Photo by Rick Wicker







IT'S A TOROSAURUS!

Did you hear that the Thornton Triceratops was reidentified as a more rare Torosaurus? After a month of careful cleaning and examination by volunteers and staff in the Museum's Fossil Prep Lab, they determined the fossil actually belonged to Torosaurus, a close cousin of Triceratops. The frill, or the "shield" of bone projecting backward from the head, revealed this new information. See the fossils in the Fossil Prep Lab in Prehistoric Journey. CBS Denver produced a special about the discovery that you can watch at cbsdenver.com/torosaurus. Illustration by Sergey Krasovsky.



DO YOU KNOW A TEEN WHO IS CURIOUS ABOUT SCIENCE?

The Museum is seeking Teen Science Scholars for summer 2018! The Teen Scholars complete behind-thescenes, hands-on summer internships with professionals at the Museum. Applicants should have an interest in learning more about a science-related career and must be entering their junior or senior year of high school in the fall of 2018. The Teen Scholars receive a monthly stipend, bus passes, and Museum cafe vouchers during their internship. Teens from groups underrepresented in the sciences are strongly encouraged to apply. For more than 10 years, this program has been supported by generous donors and served nearly 170 teens. Applications are due by Wednesday, March 14. Find more information and the application at dmns.org/ sciencescholars. Pictured left is Khalil Flowers, a 2017 Teen Scholar, with paleobotanist Dr. Ian Miller.

WELCOME, DR. CHAVARRIA

Gabriela Chavarria, PhD, joined the Museum team in January as the new vice president of research and collections.

Chavarria brings more than 20 years of experience in managing teams of gifted professionals and innovative science programs, influencing policy, developing new scientific collections, and leading scientists in research efforts both nationally and internationally. Most recently, she was senior science advisor and forensic science branch chief at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife National Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon.

Growing up in Mexico City, Chavarria fell in love with bees at an early age. She has devoted her career to the conservation of native pollinators, especially bumble bees. Her recent work



as a wood anatomist focused on fighting the illegal trafficking of tropical hardwoods. She received her PhD in organismic and evolutionary biology from Harvard University, where she studied under E.O. Wilson, the researcher, naturalist, entomologist, and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner. Learn more at dmns.org/gabrielachavarria.

HOLLYWOOD FILMS IN IMAX

Some of your Hollywood favorites are coming to Phipps IMAX Theater! The Museum is adding previously released cinematic features to our IMAX lineup. Evening showings are offered on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Find the schedule and ticket information at dmns.org/imax.

CELEBRATE FIVE YEARS OF DÍA DEL NIÑO

The Museum is pleased to continue its partnership with the Mexican Cultural Center and Telemundo Denver to present the fifth annual Día del Niño celebration on Sunday, April 29. This SCFD Community Free Day has become one of the most popular events at the Museum! Enjoy music and dance performances by local community groups as well as special crafts and other science and nature activities.

HEAVENS ABOVE

Find out what's going on in the spring sky at dmns.org/heavensabove.

NEW EXPERIENCES TRANSFORM CLASSROOMS

Have you heard? The Museum has launched six brand-new experiences, created to transform your child's classroom into a world of endless discovery! The Museum comes to schools to facilitate or simply deliver one-of-a-kind programs where kids imagine possibilities, take risks together, and build personal connections to nature and science.

Our "Facilitated by Us" experiences, led by our worldclass Museum educators, will transform classrooms and take adventurers on an unforgettable journey. The "Delivered to You" activity boxes arrive right at the classroom door with everything the teacher needs to guide students through hands-on challenges as they explore the natural world.

Make sure the child in your life has a chance to enjoy these amazing new opportunities by encouraging their teachers to book today at dmns.org/atyourschool.





Dead Sea Scrolls, the exhibition that has captivated millions around the world, will open for members on Thursday, March 15. The presenting sponsor is the Sturm Family Foundation, with major support from Henry and Lorie Gordon, and GHP Investment Advisors.

The regional premiere of this exhibition is a once-ina-lifetime opportunity to see authentic Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient manuscripts that include the oldest known biblical documents dating back over 2,000 years. The scrolls will be dramatically presented within a massive exhibit case in individual carefully regulated chambers along with full English translations.

Ten scrolls will be displayed when the exhibition opens. Due to strict preservation requirements, 10 different scrolls will arrive halfway through the run to replace the first 10. This will make it possible to see a total of 20 scrolls while the exhibition is in Denver. Each rotation includes a scroll that has never before been on public display.

In addition, more than 600 authentic artifacts from the ancient Middle East will immerse guests in historic traditions and beliefs that continue to impact world cultures today. These include inscriptions and seals, weapons, stone carvings, terra cotta figurines, remains of

religious symbols, coins, shoes, textiles, mosaics, ceramics, jewelry, and a three-ton stone from the Western Wall in Jerusalem, believed to have fallen in 70 CE.

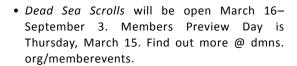
The Dead Sea Scrolls represent one of the most significant archaeological discoveries of the 20th century. In 1947, a Bedouin goat herder stumbled upon a hidden cave along the shore of the Dead Sea, near the site of the ancient settlement of Qumran. Concealed within the cave were scrolls that had not been seen for 2,000 years. After extensive excavation, thousands of fragments from more than 900 remarkably preserved scrolls were recovered, leading to decades of extraordinary scrutiny, preservation, debate, and awe.

DISCOVER MORE

The Dead Sea Scrolls mini site at dmns.org/deadseascrolls features many resources, including a list of the first rotation of scrolls, an exhibition guide, group visit information, and related programs being offered at the Museum.



MEMBERS TIPS -



- Members receive the best price on tickets. Timed tickets are required. Book your print-athome tickets @ dmns.org/deadseascrolls and avoid a handling fee.
- Reservations are also available at 303.370.6000 (daily, 9-5). There is a \$2 fee per ticket by phone. Afternoon is the best time to call.
- The complimentary guest tickets you receive with your membership may be upgraded for admission to Dead Sea Scrolls.

- Giving Club members may access their Flex Tickets for free admission to Dead Sea Scrolls electronically through their ecard or online Museum account.
- Weekday late afternoons and weekend early mornings tend to be less busy in our temporary exhibitions. School groups generally visit during weekday mornings. Spring Break 2018 in metro Denver is March 19–30.
- It can be challenging to park during popular times, so please factor this in when you plan your visit and entry time into the exhibition. We encourage considering other modes of transportation.

CREATURES OF LIGHT
EXHIBITION
NOW OPEN!

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

They light up our lives, but have you ever wondered how? Delve into the world of living things that blink, glow, flash, and flicker, in the new exhibition *Creatures of Light*, now open. This family favorite explores the mysterious world of bioluminescence and biofluorescence, from tiny fireflies to strange creatures in the ocean depths. This enlightening experience features larger-than-life models, engaging immersive environments, fun activities, and fungi, minerals, and live animals that get their glow on.

Creatures of Light reveals some of the most magical, wondrous, and truly extraordinary creatures and phenomena found in the natural world. The ability to generate light is rare among organisms that live on land. It is much more common in the ocean, where up to 90 percent of animals at depths below 700 meters are bioluminescent. Many of these animals have become particularly compelling to scientists because they may hold important clues to essential questions related to biological research.

You will move through a series of re-created environments, from the familiar to the extreme, to explore the variety of ways in which light is used to reproduce, lure unsuspecting prey, or defend against predators.

- Peek into the darkness of a New Zealand cave and look up to see twinkling over your head—not from stars but from simulated glowworms.
- Stroll across an interactive Puerto Rican lagoon as you light up a trail of flashes from tiny "pyrotechnic" plankton.
- Explore a North American meadow filled with flashing fireflies and try your hand at re-creating their dazzling mating signals.
- Marvel at gigantic models of bioluminescent fireflies, mushrooms, and jellyfish.
- Try a digital coral reef activity that shows how corals fluoresce in shades of pink, orange, and green.
- Peer into a tank of live GloFish and discover how fluorescence helps detect pollution and contributes to medical research.
- Put minerals and scorpions from the Museum collections, along with everyday objects, to the test in the new "Does It Glow?" activity.
- Throughout the gallery, you will deepen your experience with videos, animations, photographs, and iPads with additional in-depth content.

"Anyone who has seen an animal or a mushroom glow cannot help but assume it is something magical. However, science will eventually explain all of it," said Frank Krell, PhD, the Museum's entomologist and curatorial advisor for the exhibition. "The science behind bioluminescence does not explain its enchantment away, rather it makes these phenomena even more fascinating."

DISCOVER MORE

Creatures of Light is open daily through Sunday, June 10. Admission is free for members.

For more information, including related programs and fun facts, visit dmns.org/creaturesoflight.

Creatures of Light: Nature's Bioluminescence is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (amnh.org), in collaboration with the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Canada, and The Field Museum, Chicago.



Colorado offers plenty of natural treasures. Extraordinary mountain ranges, bison herds roaming the plains, flowery meadows, and clear alpine streams. But a magical ingredient is missing from this wonderful landscape, one that creates fond childhood memories around the world: Walking at night through a forest or meadow as fireflies blink and twinkle all around you. Colorado is actually full of fireflies, but can you see them?

Fireflies are a family of beetles comprising about 2,000 species worldwide. They look like brownish-black soldier beetles and are rather soft, with the females sometimes flightless and appearing like larvae. In most species, both sexes produce a cold light in their abdomen by mixing two chemicals together, an effect also used to create glow stick products. The light can be yellow, green, bluish white, or pale red. Fireflies use their light signals to find and communicate with their mates within their species.

Most of Colorado's fireflies, however, do not flash. They are small, dark, inconspicuous beetles that communicate using chemical signals (pheromones) to find and recognize their mates. They are common in the Denver area but do not cause the interest and wonder that their flashing cousins do.

Flashing fireflies have been seen all over Colorado, in Adams, Alamosa, Baca, Boulder, Chaffee, Custer, Delta, Douglas, El Paso, La Plata, Larimer, Logan, Mesa, Montrose, Morgan, Pitkin, Pueblo, Routt, Saguache, Weld, and Yuma counties. Although this covers a lot of our state, these sightings are rare. Fireflies prefer moist environs, and our state is largely dry. Firefly larvae are predators of snails, slugs, small worms, and softbodied insects that thrive in wet environments. So if you are looking for the magical experience of those tiny flashing lights, you might have some luck around reservoirs, drainage areas, ditches, or canals on warm summer nights. Here in Colorado, however, seeing that enchanting flash is usually a case of just happening to be in the right place at the right time.—Frank T. Krell, PhD, senior curator of entomology

EDMONTOSAURUS BONE BEDS

One of the largest known collections of dinosaur fossils preserved in bone beds was donated to the Museum last fall.

More than 6,000 *Edmontosaurus* fossils from eastern Wyoming were collected during years of excavations by the Hankla family of Danville, Ky., the generous donors of this collection. The fossils include skulls, vertebrae, and limbs from dozens of dinosaurs of varying ages. There are individual fossils as well as hundreds embedded in hone beds.

"These fossils are spectacular!" said Joe Sertich, PhD, curator of dinosaurs. "This is the single largest donation of dinosaur bones the Museum has ever received. The assortment of fossils will allow us to study how dinosaurs changed as they grew and how they varied within a single population. We are grateful to the Hankla family for their generosity."

Edmontosaurus was a duck-billed dinosaur, or hadrosaur, that lived in western North America at the end of the Cretaceous Period, between 68 and 66 million years ago. They were herbivores that grew to more than 40 feet long. The fossils in this donation came from a massive bone bed, where the animals were likely buried by a sudden flood event in eastern Wyoming nearly 67 million years ago. The fossils were collected from privately owned land. Many fossils from this region disappear on the commercial market, scattered to collectors around the world.

John Hankla, one of the donors, said he is pleased the fossils found a home at a major research institution like the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. "They can be used to inspire future scientists and lead to significant

scientific research on dinosaur growth and behavior," he said.

The fossils join others at the Museum in what is rapidly becoming one of the best Cretaceous dinosaur fossil collections in the country, including specimens recently recovered from Montana, North and South Dakota, New Mexico, Utah, and metro Denver.

The bone beds and other fossils arrived at the Museum in the back of a semi truck, carefully packed in giant crates. Many of the *Edmontosaurus* fossils will require careful preparation for research and future programs and exhibits. The bone beds contain *Edmontosaurus* and the remains of other animals that lived alongside them, including the teeth of scavenging *Tyrannosaurus rex*. These slabs of bone will be left in place to demonstrate the way fossils were buried and preserved, a snapshot in time 67 million years ago.

DISCOVER MORE

The *Edmontosaurus* fossils are now part of the paleontology collections in the Avenir Collections Center and will be prepared for research in the Schlessman Family Laboratory of Earth Sciences.

Our permanent exhibition, *Prehistoric Journey*, is home to a fully articulated skeleton of a 66-million-year-old *Edmontosaurus* collected from the Hell Creek Formation in Montana. When you check it out, notice the battle scar on its tail from an encounter with a *T. rex*!

Find out more about Dr. Joe Sertich and his research at dmns.org/science.





THANK YOU!

The new Volunteer Engagement Center opened in December with a lounge, meeting room, and offices. The center was created as a special place for our dedicated volunteers, who gave 227,875 hours of their free time to the Museum in 2017.

More than 400 donors helped make this project possible, the vast majority of whom are also Museum volunteers, staff, or members. Together with the \$500,000 incentive fund established by Trustees Ed Warner and John Freyer, more than \$1 million was raised, defraying a significant fraction of the total renovation cost.

"There's no completely adequate way to thank our volunteers for all they do—and have done—for the Museum over the years, but we hope that this beautiful new space will help express our gratitude," said Jacqueline Altreuter, director of volunteer engagement. "Thank you to all of the supporters who made this possible, particularly Ed and John for establishing the incentive fund."

It is possible to support the great work of the Museum volunteers in 2018 and beyond. The Volunteer Fund was established in 2010 as an endowment that distributes funds annually to projects selected by volunteers themselves that have a positive impact across the Museum. These projects reflect the generous spirit of our 1,700 volunteers.

The Museum is honored to have one of the largest volunteer corps among museums in the country. Thank you to all of our volunteers and to everyone who supported the Volunteer Engagement Center.



MUSEUM after DARK FRIDAY • 06.08.2018

Please mark your calendars for our signature gala, reimagined for 2018!

Join us for an extraordinary evening as we delve into the world of living things that blink, glow, flash, flicker, sparkle, and shine! The evening's new strolling party format will delight your senses in true Denver Museum of Nature & Science style.

CO-CHAIRS:

Matthew & Priya Burkett John & Katie Levisay

Curious? For more information, catch a glimpse at dmns.org/mad.

DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE **SALUTES OUR 2017 CORPORATE PARTNERS**

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For information about corporate partnerships and memberships, please contact Angeles Ortega at 303.370.6454 or angeles.ortega@dmns.org.





MEET LUTEMYS WARRENI

BY TYLER LYSON, PhD

Most people are likely familiar with modern snapping turtles, known for their fierce nature and rugged appearance. Snapping turtles are found throughout North America, living in ponds and lakes from coast to coast, as far north as southern Canada and as far south as Florida and Texas. While fully shelled turtles have a fossil record extending back 210 million years, new species of prehistoric turtles continue to surface, enhancing the emerging studies in recent years about how turtle shells and lungs developed over time.

My colleagues and I recently described a new genus and species of prehistoric turtle in the *Journal* of *Vertebrate Paleontology*. The fossil shares several features with modern snapping turtles and mud turtles. It was discovered in the Kaiparowits Formation during a Museum field season in southern Utah. The specimen suggests that this group of snapping turtles originated in North America more than 76 million years ago. The fossil is named *Lutemys warreni* (EPV.82370).

There are many cool aspects to being a scientist, but one particularly special opportunity is getting to name new species. *Lutemys* means "clay turtle," referencing that this animal is largely found in mudstone rock. The species name, *warreni*, is to honor David Warren, in

recognition of his longtime support of the Museum's paleontology research. Dave has volunteered at the Museum for nearly 23 years, preparing fossils in the Fossil Prep Labs and participating in field expeditions. He is also an active member and supporter of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology and Western Interior Paleontological Society. Dave is the quintessential citizen scientist, whose day job is real estate!

Other fossil turtles are currently being examined at the Museum, likely leading to naming additional new species, and detailed studies of fossils and living turtles will continue to piece together the story of the origin of the unique turtle shell.

DISCOVER MORE

Dr. Tyler Lyson is curator of vertebrate paleontology. Learn more about his research at dmns.org/science.

You may access the research paper at www. tandfonline.com, search *Lutemys warreni*.

Left: Dave Warren puts ID labels on the fossil shell of his namesake prehistoric turtle. Right: An illustration of *Lutemys warreni* by Andrey Atuchin.

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- Read the monthly eNews with members-only news, tips, and special offers. Not receiving eNews or advance notifications?
 Send your email address to members@dmns.org.
- Keep your membership current with Auto-Renew. Enroll @ 303.370.6306 (daily, 9–5) and get a free gift. Your expiration date is printed on the mail label on the back of this magazine.
- Add another adult to your membership for just \$50. This is a great option for nannies and grandparents, and the add-on member enjoys many benefits! Not valid on Individual level memberships.
- Visit 360 science centers and museums using your free admission through the ASTC Passport Program. Free admission begins outside a 90-mile radius of Denver and your residence. Find out more @ astc.org/passport.
- Upgrade to the Family Plus level or higher and enjoy additional benefits as well as free admission at the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.

MEMBERS-ONLY IMAX SHOW Tuesday, April 17 • 9 a.m.

\$7 adult member, \$6 senior/junior member

Enjoy a special members-only screening of *Jerusalem 3D*. This film is a perfect complement to the new exhibition *Dead Sea Scrolls* (additional timed ticket required). Get your tickets today at dmns.org/memberevents or 303.370.6306.

MEMBERS APPRECIATION DAY Sunday, May 6

Enjoy these special discounts just for you!

- 20% off on select items* in the Museum Shops
- 20% off in the T-Rex Cafe and Grab & Go
- 10% off gift memberships
- 50% off IMAX and Planetarium tickets
- *Extra 10% discount does not apply to DVDs, CDs, and books. Special offers are valid in person only and must be used on May 6, 2018.

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

- 303.370.6306 (daily, 9-5)
- members@dmns.org
- www.dmns.org/members
- Members Lane at Ticketing

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Your membership helps us provide outstanding science education programs, exhibitions, and research.





BE INSPIRED BY WOMEN IN SCIENCE!

Where: Denver Museum of Nature & Science, 2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO 80205

When: Saturday, March 3, 2018, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tickets: This event is included in the price of Museum admission and is FREE for members.

Ages 3-18: \$4 general Museum admission

Members: Free

SNAP Access: Free, just show your EBT card at Ticketing **Military** (current, reservist, and National Guard members): Free **Organized Youth Groups:** Free with advance reservations

at 303.370.6000

Scholarships Available*

What: The Denver Museum of Nature & Science and CBS4 are excited to host the fourth annual Girls & Science event. Come explore a variety of Science Clubhouses, where girls (and boys!) and their families will meet women Career Mentors in STEAM and experience the many diverse opportunities a future career in science, technology, engineering, art, and math can bring. This day is all about igniting a passion for science—so try it on, test it out, and play!





∆nadarko[‡]





Raytheon







www.dmns.org/girlsandscience

*Free admission is available for families that need financial assistance to attend this event. Please call 303.370.6000 in advance or see a Museum ticketing agent on March 3 for information.

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UPGRADE TODAY AND SEE DEAD SEA SCROLLS FOR FREE

When you upgrade to the Curator level in the Giving Club you provide critical support for the exhibitions, research, and programs the Museum offers to our community. You make it possible for 300,000 guests in school and youth groups to visit for free. You ensure we can offer \$1 admission for members of our community receiving SNAP. You provide Museum scientists and researchers with the essential tools to pursue new finds, such as the *Torosaurus* discovery last summer. Plus, as a Curator member, you will enjoy the Museum even more with these exclusive benefits:

- 14 Flex Tickets that can be used to attend Dead Sea Scrolls, Science Lounge, IMAX films, planetarium shows, and select lectures and family programs (\$15 or less) for FREE! You get to design your Museum experience based on your personal interests.
- Free general admission to the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, in addition to 360 science centers and museums around the country through the ASTC Passport Program.
- Invitations to special events throughout the year, including the popular Behind-the-Scenes Night and IMAX Night, just for Giving Club members.
- Early access to summer camp registration for the Museum's incredibly popular camps.
- One FREE member add-on to share with your nanny, grandparent, or friend of your choice. A \$50 value!

UPGRADE TODAY by logging into your online Museum account. Enter promo code US18-CATALYST to start enjoying additional benefits right away, or find out more at dmns.org/givingclub. It is easier and more affordable than ever to become a Giving Club member with monthly contributions. Details at 303.370.6306.

DISCOVER

ADULTS | CHILDREN | FAMILIES | TEENS SPRING 2018









MARCH 15: LUMINOUS

Light up the night! Get enlightened by the temporary exhibition *Creatures of Light* and explore the world of bioluminescence, fluorescence, and iridescence. Play with the spectrum of light, from the infrared to the ultraviolet, and stir up a glowing chemistry concoction.

APRIL 19: MARS

Imagine life on the cold and rocky surface of our nearest neighbor. Talk to an "astronaut" in the Mars diorama, learn about *Insight*, the next lander on Mars, and enjoy an evening of perilous space adventure from the comfort of your own planet!

MAY 17: URBAN HOMESTEAD

From canning to kombucha home brew, get the practical science of homesteading while locked in a cityscape. Get your hands dirty with gardening advice and learn how to grow your own dinner, pluck your own breakfast, and milk your own goat ... okay, maybe just pet the goat.

MEDIA SPONSORS





EXHIBITIONS

Creatures of Light

Now through June 10 • Phipps Gallery • Free for members

Delve into the world of living things that blink, glow, flash, and flicker, from tiny fireflies in the backyard to strange creatures in the ocean's depths.

Dead Sea Scrolls

March 16—September 3 • Anschutz Gallery • Special ticket required See authentic Dead Sea Scrolls—ancient manuscripts that include the oldest known biblical documents dating back over 2,000 years—along with hundreds of historical artifacts that explore the origin of the modern world.

Mindbender Mansion

Opens July 20

Enter *Mindbender Mansion*, a quirky place full of puzzles, brainteasers, and interactive challenges that puts minds of all ages to the test.

¡Cuba!

Opens October 19

In this lively exhibition, discover the dynamic culture, abundant biodiversity, and unexpected contrasts of the Caribbean's largest island nation.

PHIPPS IMAX 3D THEATER • Now showing

America's Musical Journey 3D Conquest of the Skies 3D Jerusalem 3D Pandas 3D • Opens April 6

Hollywood Favorites • check dmns.org/imax

GATES PLANETARIUM • Now showing

Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity

Cosmic Journey

Destination Solar System

One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure

Space Tours Live

ADMISSION Special ticket required for *Dead Sea Scrolls*

	MUSEUM	IMAX	PLANETARIUM
Adult member	FREE	\$7	\$5
Senior member (65+)	FREE	\$6	\$4
Child/Junior member (3–18)	FREE	\$6	\$4

The Museum is open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m., with extended hours at various times. Dates, times, prices, and schedules subject to change. Find more ways to discover @ dmns.org.

On the cover: Cuneiform tablets from the anthropology collections

From left: A499.7, A554.1, A499.10, A499.13, A440.8, A1410.4

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
						Girls & Science, free for members	
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	Osteology, p. 8	Squid Empire, p. 5		Glow Party for Families, p. 11			
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Daylight saving time begins	Jerusalem with Dr. Magness, p. 5		Indigenous Film, p. 5	Dead Sea Scrolls members preview Science Lounge, inside cover	Dead Sea Scrolls opens Family Overnight, p. 11		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
		Spring equinox Intro to Rocks and Minerals, p. 8	Intro to Birding, p. 8	Peer Revue, p. 5 Bird Walk, p. 8			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	Invertebrate Paleo, p. 9	Creatures of Light Members Evening (21+)	60 Minutes in Space, p. 6	The New Chimpanzee, p. 6			
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APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				Digital Earth, p. 6 Digital Camera course, p. 9	Pandas 3D opens in IMAX	
1	SCFD Community Free Day America's Musical Journey program, p. 6 Spider Biology,	Tour the Human Brain, p. 6	Dead Sea Scrolls Members Evening Indigenous Film, p. 5	5	Teen Lounge, p. 11	7
8	p. 9 9	10	11	Science Lounge, inside cover	13	14
15	Bird Walk, p. 8	Dead Sea Scrolls Members Evening (21+)	60 Minutes in Space, p. 6 Archaeology of Beer, p. 7	19	20	21
SCFD Community Free Day (Día del Niño) SCIENTÍA	30			20		28

MAY

			IVIAI			
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				K-P Boundary, p. 9		
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Members Appreciation Day		Planet of Microbes, p. 7	Indigenous Film, p. 5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	Science Lounge, inside cover	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			60 Minutes in Space, p. 6	Digital Earth, p. 7		
27	28	29	30	31		





Squid Empire

Before there were fish in the sea, there were cephalopods, the ancestors of modern squid and Earth's first truly substantial animals. With dozens of tentacles and formidable shells, they presided over an undersea empire for millions of years. In *Squid Empire: The Rise and Fall of the Cephalopods*, author Dr. Danna Staaf explores the journey of cephalopods and their evolutionary innovations: masterful camouflage, bioluminescence, fin-

supplemented jet propulsion, perhaps even dolphin-like intelligence. Cited as one of NPR's best science books of 2017, *Squid Empire* is an epic adventure spanning hundreds of millions of years, from the marine life of the primordial ocean to modern calamari.

Tuesday, March 6 • 7 p.m. • Phipps Theater • \$12 member, \$15 nonmember • book sale & signing

Jerusalem 3D with Archaeologist Jodi Magness

Enjoy a special screening of the stunning IMAX film *Jerusalem 3D*, hosted by archaeologist Jodi Magness. The film captures a rare bird's-eye view of the storied city as well as exclusive access to iconic holy sites and little-known parts of the region. Magness both consulted on and is featured in the film. After the film, she will expand on the rich history of Jerusalem, particularly focusing on the Temple Mount. Magness holds a senior endowed chair in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is president of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Monday, March 12 • 7 p.m. • Phipps IMAX Theater • \$15 member, \$18 nonmember

Indigenous Film Series

The Denver Museum of Nature & Science is pleased to partner with the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management and the Denver American Indian Commission to present Indigenous Film, a monthly series. Join us for a wide variety of films, from documentaries to feature films and youth film showcases. Following the film, participate in a discussion with the Commissioners of the Denver American Indian Commission and other special guests. Concessions available for purchase. Check dmns.org for film titles.

Wednesdays, March 14, April 11, May 9 • 6:30 p.m. • Phipps Theater • free

Peer Revue: Stand-Up Comedy for Science

Cheer on local scientists turned comedians as they attempt stand-up for the first time and wax hilarious about the unique nuances of their work. This one-of-a-kind comedy night for science fans will get you laughing with (and at!) some of the biggest brains in town. Learn more at peer-revue.com. Ages 18+. Cash bar.

Thursday, March 22 • 7:30 p.m. • Science Atrium • \$12 member, \$15 nonmember

60 Minutes in Space

Go "behind the stories" in space science with space scientists Steve Lee and Ka Chun Yu using the best images and animation available to help understand new developments. No reservations required. Seating is limited to first-come, first-served.

Wednesdays, March 28, April 25, May 30 • 7 p.m. • Ricketson Auditorium • free



The New Chimpanzee

Recent discoveries are changing how we perceive one of humanity's closest relatives, the chimpanzee. Craig Stanford has conducted extensive field research on wild great apes, monkeys, and other animals. He will discuss chimpanzees' complex political intelligence, cultural diversity, violent ambition, and adaptability as they pass cultural traditions to younger generations, plot political coups, and ruthlessly strategize for resources. Stanford is professor of anthropology and biological sciences and codirector of the Jane

Goodall Research Center at the University of Southern California, and author of the new book *The New Chimpanzee: A Twenty-First-Century Portrait of Our Closest Kin*.

Thursday, March 29 • 7 p.m. • Ricketson Auditorium • \$12 member, \$15 nonmember • book sale & signing

Digital Earth: The Dead Sea

Journey to the Middle East with space science curator Ka Chun Yu and geologist Bob Raynolds to discover the fascinating wonders and deep history of the region. Cross deserts, visit rare oases, and learn the incredible science behind the origins of the Dead Sea and why the climate there helped preserve the Dead Sea Scrolls for two millennia.

Thursday, April 5 • 6 or 8 p.m. • Gates Planetarium • \$8 member, \$10 nonmember

America's Musical Journey with Jazz Musician Ron Miles

In the new IMAX film, *America's Musical Journey*, you will tap your toe to the sounds of jazz, blues, zydeco, and old-time country music as you travel to vibrant places where American music was born, from New Orleans to New York City. After the film, Ron Miles, acclaimed jazz trumpeter and director of jazz studies at Metropolitan State University of Denver, will take a closer look at the history of jazz in America and in Denver. Miles is an inductee in the Colorado Music Hall of Fame, and his new album *I Am a Man* was on NPR's list of top albums of 2017.

Monday, April 9 • 7 p.m. • Phipps IMAX Theater • \$15 member, \$18 nonmember

Get Inside Your Mind: Tour the Human Brain

What sparks human curiosity? The answer and more lie somewhere in the brain's complex architecture. Get a look inside your head during a tour of the brain projected on our immersive planetarium dome with Jonathan Fisher, assistant professor of physiology, New York Medical College. Fisher founded the Neurodome Project, which combines planetarium technology with high-resolution brain imaging techniques. From witnessing sparks of electrical activity in individual neurons to sailing down neural pathways that support consciousness, emotions, and complex thought, you will explore the fundamental mechanisms of brain function—and what it means to be human.

Tuesday, April 10 • 6 or 8 p.m. • Gates Planetarium • \$12 member, \$15 nonmember

The Archaeology of Beer

Join Travis Rupp, instructor of classics at the University of Colorado Boulder and the research and development manager at Avery Brewing Company, to explore the origins of beer production in the ancient Middle East and Egypt and how it expanded during Greek and Roman dominion. Although ancient Greece and Rome boasted the superiority of the grape, beer production and consumption was at the core of diet and nutrition in the Mediterranean dating back to the Bronze Age. Rupp will also highlight his creation of Ales of Antiquity as a beer archaeologist at Avery.

Wednesday, April 25 • 7 p.m. • Phipps Theater • \$15 member, \$18 nonmember • Cash bar

Planet of Microbes

In his book *Planet of Microbes*, Ted Anton reveals the most recent discoveries about microbes, tiny living organisms we cannot see with the naked eye. Microbes were Earth's first lifeforms, early anaerobic inhabitants that created the air we breathe. Today they live, invisible and seemingly invincible, everywhere. For years, we considered them as little more than our enemies, but microbes may hold the answers to some of science's most pressing questions about life on our planet. Anton spent years interviewing and collaborating with the determined scientists who hope to harness the work of microbes. He will breaks down the science and share incredible behind-the-scenes stories of the research taking place, from microbreweries to Mars.

Tuesday, May 8 • 7 p.m. • Ricketson Auditorium • \$8 member, \$10 nonmember • book sale & signing

Digital Earth: The Turkana Basin

With the help of immersive satellite imagery, travel to Africa and uncover the home of early human ancestors in the Turkana Basin with space scientist Ka Chun Yu and geologist Bob Raynolds. Made popular by famous anthropologists like Richard Leakey, Raynolds will discuss his fieldwork in the area with a team from Stony Brook University studying the rich fossil history and geology of the region.

Thursday, May 31 • 7 p.m. • Gates Planetarium • \$8 member, \$10 nonmember

The Dead Sea Scrolls

Denver is fortunate to have a renowned local Dead Sea Scrolls scholar, Alison Schofield, associate professor of Hebrew Bible and Judaic studies at the University of Denver. She is recognized internationally for her scholarship of the scrolls and was recently entrusted with leading an extensive multiyear project to create a new translation, edition, and commentary on the charter text of the Dead Sea Scrolls, entitled "The Community Rule." She has published extensively and participated with other preeminent scholars around the world to address many of the central questions related to the scrolls and some of the mysteries that still surround them. Join Schofield for an engaging evening as she shares stories from her research and fieldwork in Qumran.

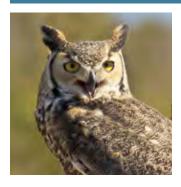
Wednesday, June 6 • 7 p.m. • Phipps Theater • \$12 member, \$15 nonmember



Sponsored by



BIRD WALKS



Early Spring Migrants

By late March, birds are on the move! Begin at Barr Lake State Park, where great horned owls and bald eagles have begun nesting and waterfowl abounds. Woodpeckers, chickadees, and nuthatches work the woodlands, and riparian brush hosts sparrows and finches. Move on to DIA, where the "airport loop" should have numerous raptors, with burrowing owls arriving as rough-legged hawks depart.

Thursday, March 22 • 7 a.m.-5 p.m. • \$27 member, \$35 nonmember

Chatfield State Park

Chatfield, with its various habitats, is a perfect place to see birds on the move, with ducks, geese, grebes, and possibly loon. The Marina Sand Spit should have a variety of shorebirds, and the woodlands will be full of songbirds. Possibilities include western grebe and wood duck, Say's phoebe, yellow-rumped warbler, American pipit, all six swallows, bluebirds, white-faced ibis, and more.

Monday, April 23 • 7 a.m.-5 p.m. • \$27 member, \$35 nonmember

COURSES

Osteology 101: The Bare Bones of Mammals

We've got a bone to pick with you! Instructor Sue Ware leads you through the skeletal anatomy (osteology) of mammals. This class for beginners explores the basics of mammalian bone organization, development, composition, and adaptation. Learn how the skeletons of vertebrates allow them to leap, climb, and bounce their way through their busy lives. The class is taught via tactile lab using Museum specimens, virtual lab, and lecture.

Mondays & Wednesdays, March 5-14 • 6:30-9:30 p.m. • \$110 member, \$140 nonmember

Introduction to Rocks and Minerals

Designed for beginners, this course offers an opportunity to explore the identification, classification, and value of rocks and minerals. Experience hands-on geology in class with a lecture and lab format, then apply class principles using real specimens. A geology background is not necessary, only an inquisitive mind and an interest in deciphering Earth's mineral components.

Tuesdays & Thursdays, March 20-29 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • \$110 member, \$140 nonmember

Introduction to Birding

Have you ever tried to identify the birds in your backyard or been curious about the popular hobby of bird watching? Let birding expert Norm Lewis help you get started with all the basics. Learn about birding optics, field guides, clothing and gear, basic bird families, and field identification techniques. Then venture into the field to test your new skills and start your very own life list. Includes a copy of *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America*.

Wednesday & Friday, March 21 & 23 • 6:30–8:30 p.m. • Field trip: Saturday, March 24 • \$60 member, \$75 nonmember

Invertebrate Paleontology: Mesozoic and Cenozoic

The modern groups of abundant invertebrates arose from the ashes of the Permian-Triassic extinction. Groups such as mollusks, crustaceans, and echinoids became dominant, and remain so today. With Emmett Evanoff, research associate, as your guide, examine the fossil groups that are most important during this second stage of invertebrate history.

Mondays & Wednesdays March 26-April 4 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • \$110 member, \$140 nonmember

Capturing Wildlife and Nature with a Digital Camera

It's not easy to "catch" a bird in flight or a pronghorn on the run. Bob Dean, a freelance nature and wildlife photographer, will present the basics of image capture and the art of getting just what you want, for both beginners and those with more experience. Your equipment need not be professional level; it can be a point-and-shoot digital camera or a more complex adjustable camera. Examine still images, and take a quick look at how to get video clips. Part of the class will be a voluntary portfolio review of student's prior work. Dean has over 40 years of photographic experience; visit www.viewsofnaturephoto.com.

Thursdays, April 5-26 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • \$110 member, \$140 nonmember



Spider Biology

Whether you love spiders or fear them, this class will spin you up in a web of wonder. Paula Cushing, curator of invertebrate zoology, shares the family ties between spiders and their closest relatives, weaving in facts about their biology, their importance in terrestrial environments, and their ecology and behavior. You will learn how to identify different families of spiders and become certified to take part in the Colorado Spider Survey, a project for citizen scientists.

Mondays & Wednesdays, April 9–18 • 6:30–8:30 p.m. • Field trip: Saturday, April 14 • \$110 member, \$140 nonmember

The Cretaceous-Paleogene Boundary

The extraterrestrial event that caused the mass extinction of the dinosaurs now defines the Cretaceous-Paleogene (K-P) boundary. Paleontologist and research associate Lou Taylor leads you through a study of this catastrophic event and how it impacted the organisms living on land and in the seas. Includes a one-day field trip to a locale in southern Colorado near Trinidad, considered one of the best-known K-P sites.

Thursday & Friday, May 3 & 4 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • Field trip: Saturday, May 5 • \$110 member, \$140 nonmember

CANOE TRIPS

Paddle along scenic rivers while soaking in the sun and gaining new knowledge about geology, wildlife, astronomy, and dinosaurs. Reservations and information: 720.283.0553, www.CentennialCanoe.com



Beer Tasting on the Yampa

Nicole Garneau, curator of health sciences and a taste expert, will lead you on a beer tasting journey as you explore remote areas of our beautiful state on a gentle, enchanting 33-mile stretch of the Yampa River, the last undammed tributary of the Colorado River system teeming with colorful vegetation, picturesque views, and wildlife.

Friday-Sunday, June 8-10 • \$436 adult • Ages 21+ only

Stargazing on the Gunnison

Embark on a memorable weekend with astronomer Naomi Pequette as you revel in both earthbound scenery and the breathtaking skies above. Without the interference of city lights, learn about planets, constellations, and deep space.

Friday-Sunday, June 15-17 • \$436 adult, \$406 child (6-12 years)

Geology and Archaeology by Canoe on the Upper Gunnison

With geologist Bob Raynolds as your guide, marvel at colorful sandstone walls hundreds of feet high and explore canyons and ancient rock art. Canoe down this epic stretch of river, hike and explore the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness Area with waterfalls and petroglyphs, and camp along the river's edge.

Friday-Sunday, July 20-22 • \$436 adult, \$406 child (6-12 years)



Dinosaurs by Canoe on the Gunnison

Experience fascinating rock formations from the age of the dinosaurs, and paddle your way along the Gunnison River with educator Samantha Sands as your time-travel guide. Camping along the river's banks and exploring Dominquez Canyon will leave you awed by the immensity of geologic time.

Sunday-Tuesday, July 29-31 • \$436 adult, \$406 child (6-12 years)

Archaeology and Western History on the Green River

Museum educator Jennifer Moss Logan shares stories of those who left their mark on the local landscape, from ancient native peoples to the colorful characters whose adventures brought them westward. For both the adventurer and historian at heart.

Wednesday-Sunday, August 8-12 • \$691 adult, \$661 child (6-12 years)

FAMILIES, TEENS, AND CHILDREN

Glow Party for Families

Get your glow on at this kicking party in conjunction with *Creatures of Light*. After dinner, explore the exhibition, then create a glowing creature, draw with light, and make your own glow sticks!

Thursday, March 8 • 6-8 p.m. • member: \$20 adult, \$15 child/junior • nonmember: \$25 adult, \$20 child/junior

Family Overnight: Spring into Science • Ages 7-11 with parents

Spend a memorable night experiencing the magic of the Museum with your whole family! Check out the wonders of springtime in Colorado with a dino egg hunt through the Museum, make and take your own plant to grow at home, and experiment, explore, and engage in hands-on fun for everyone. Then sleep among the animals in our renowned diorama wildlife halls. Includes dinner, bedtime snack, and full breakfast.

Friday-Saturday, March 16-17 • 6 p.m.-10 a.m. • member: \$65 adult, \$55 child/junior • nonmember: \$80 adult, \$70 child/junior



Teen Lounge • Ages 13-18

Teens take over the Museum at this totally free, uniquely teen night. Venture through Museum exhibits, get hands-on with entertaining activities, and win awesome giveaways. Chill with friends and eat free snacks after hours! Check out dmns.org for details.

Fridays, April 13, July 13 • 7-10 p.m. • free

SCHOOL BREAK CAMP

Spring Break Camp • Grades K-2 & 3-6

Looking for something amazing for your kids to do during the breaks from school? At the Museum, your child will experience fun and wonder, see IMAX films and planetarium shows, and explore the marvels of our temporary exhibitions. Different activities each week. Limited early morning drop-off and late pickup options available.

Monday-Friday, March 26-30 • 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. • \$260 member, \$290 nonmember (per week)

RESERVATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

303.370.6000, daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., or dmns.org

MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

303.370.6306 or members@dmns.org

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE

dmns.org/members

PRINT-AT-HOME TICKETS

Print-at-home tickets are available for exhibitions, IMAX and Planetarium shows, and lectures and programs, and there's no handling fee! When you arrive at the Museum, proceed directly to the ticket takers or to your program. Please always bring your membership card and photo ID when you visit the Museum. There is a \$2 handling fee per ticket for surcharged exhibitions reserved by phone.

E-CARD: BENEFITS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The free eCard app is so much more than just a convenient way to store your member number! You'll receive instant access to your members perks and benefits. Find out more @ dmns.org/ecard.

E-COMMUNICATIONS

Receive a monthly newsletter with updates and special offers as well as advance notices and other insider information when you share your e-mail address with us at members@dmns.org.

CONFIRMATION

For After Hours programs, classes, field trips, and programs for families and teens, you will receive a reminder e-mail with directions for entering the Museum.

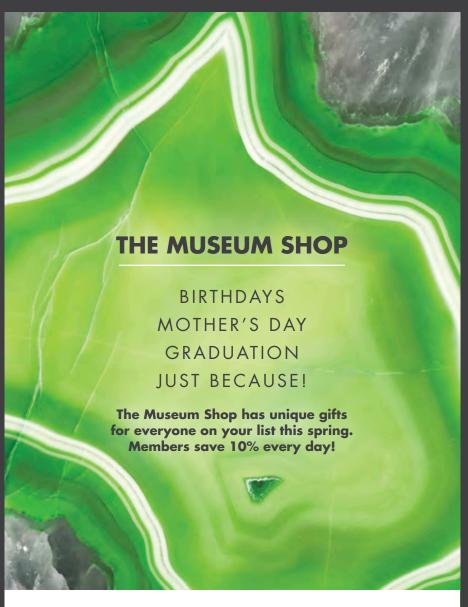
REFUND POLICY

Sales are final on all tickets unless the Museum cancels the event.

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USE YOUR MEMBERSHIP OFTEN! WE'RE OPEN 364 DAYS A YEAR!







SALAD BAR, GRILL, KIDS MEALS — LEVEL 1 11 a.m.—2 p.m.

GRAB & GO SANDWICHES, SNACKS — LEVEL 1 COFFEE LAB — LEVEL 2 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

Proudly serving locally sourced Colorado products.



