



# PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **“COOL SCIENCE” SERIES TO DEBUT IN CITY PUBLIC LIBRARIES APRIL 1**

### **Buffalo Museum of Science Initiative Brings Free Science Education and Recreational Programming to Buffalo Children 8 to 12 through Collaboration with the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System**

**BUFFALO (March 25)** Thanks to a unique partnership between the Buffalo Museum of Science (BMS) and the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System (B&ECPLS), youngsters in the City of Buffalo will have the opportunity to enhance their literacy and science skills through a FREE fun-filled series of programs being offered in all city library branches during the next three months.

The “Cool Science” series, featuring four weekly, after-school programs designed for children ages 8-12, gives students the chance to learn through “doing, talking, reading, and writing about science.” The Museum of Science’s educational arm, The Center for Science Learning, provides the instructional staff and the science units. The Library System will host the series and take the lead in promoting the events and recruiting youth to participate.

Programs include the following:

#### **“Get Sparked”**

Beyond beakers and Bunsen burners-uncover how cool scientists really are. You might be surprised to find a scientist in you.

#### **“Outrageous Ooze”**

Have an outrageous time experimenting hands-on with ooze, while learning about the states of matter.

#### **“GeoTectives”**

Digging in your backyard will never be the same. Build your skills as a rock hound and discover the fascinating world of rocks and minerals.

-MORE-

## **“Blasting Off”**

3, 2, 1...LIFT OFF! Using common objects, children will learn about energy and motion while getting to build and launch their own rockets. Get ready to have a blast!

According to BMS President and CEO Mark Mortenson, “this innovative pilot project is guided by the Museum’s basic philosophy to create a better world by helping all people explore and understand it.”

“During the past three years, the percentage of intermediate students in the Buffalo Public Schools attaining literacy and science proficiency has declined steadily. The Museum of Science believes developing life-long learners is a community-wide responsibility, and not just the province of our school system. Our expectation is this collaboration will begin to create a science-rich environment in the eight city library branches.”

B&ECPLS Director Bridget Quinn-Carey is equally optimistic.

“Improvement in both reading and science is critically important for the future success of Buffalo and Erie County’s youth. Children are this community’s leaders and workforce of tomorrow. The Library System sees this cooperative venture as a step towards giving young people the skills to read, to understand, and to become informed, dependable employees and productive citizens.”

Registration for “Cool Science” is required. For specific information on locations, dates, and times of programs, go to [www.buffalolib.org](http://www.buffalolib.org).

*The Buffalo Museum of Science is the non-profit educational institution dedicated to the study and interpretation of the natural and physical sciences. Its extensive collections of over 600,000 specimens and artifacts represent all facets of the natural world with an emphasis on Western New York as well as man-made objects spanning the globe. Based at 1020 Humboldt Parkway and anchoring Buffalo’s East Side in Olmsted-designed Martin Luther King, Jr. Park since 1929, the Museum presents a wide variety of programs and services for children, teachers, families, adults, and community organizations throughout each year. General admission to the Museum is \$7 adults; \$6 seniors (age 62+); \$5 students and children over 3; and free for members and children under 3. The Museum also operates Tiff Nature Preserve in South Buffalo, a 264-acre urban wetland preserve on reclaimed former industrial land; The Elmwood Science Spot, a satellite studio of the Buffalo Museum of Science located in the heart of the Elmwood Village; and seasonally sponsors archaeological exploration at the Hiscock Site in nearby Genesee County, NY, one of North America’s richest Ice Age sites.*

*For further information on the Museum and its upcoming activities, call 716-896-5200 or visit [www.buffalomuseumofscience.org](http://www.buffalomuseumofscience.org).*

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