



PRESS RELEASE

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**EXPERIENCE THE PASSION OF COLLECTORS
BEFORE US WITH *CULTURE QUEST*
SEPTEMBER 20, 2008 THROUGH JANUARY 4, 2009
*5th Annual Museum's Attic to be held during run***

BUFFALO (August 27) – What kind of collector are you? Featured this fall at the Buffalo Museum of Science (BMS) will be ***CULTURE QUEST***, the new themed experience about collectors and collecting, on view at the museum from Saturday, September 20 through January 4, 2009. ***Culture Quest***, sponsored by **Time Warner Cable**, is included with museum admission, which is \$7 adults, \$6 seniors, \$5 students and children over age three, and free for Science Museum members and children under three.

When the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences (BSNS) was formed in 1861, its founders and members donated interesting items collected over time and through travel such as sea shells, rocks, plant samples, and other animal and natural specimens, and displayed them in what is referred to as “Cabinets of Curiosity.” Since then, many collectors, bequests and journeys later, the holdings of the Museum have grown exponentially into a unique and highly diverse collection of over 600,000 specimens and artifacts from all corners of the globe – valued by scholars and researchers, chosen for display at this Museum, utilized in programs for all types of audiences, and often shared with other museums. ***CULTURE QUEST*** will feature a number of treasures of this collection that have not lately or ever been on display, and will discuss museum collecting.

The Museum of Science has benefited over its history from the generosity of many individuals who spent their lives collecting. Each collector has his or her reasons for collecting what interests them, and their decision to donate their collection to the Science Museum is just as personal. ***CULTURE QUEST*** tells the stories of a number of collectors who made notable contributions to the Museum, including George Clinton, Sarita Hopkins Weeks, Lewis Jackson Bennett, and the Museum's most dynamic President, Chauncey Hamlin.

Several known present-day collectors from WNY, including **Charles Rand Penney**, Mary and Harold Cohen, and **Robby Takac (The Goo Goo Dolls)**, will be also highlighted with selections from their personal collections. ***CULTURE QUEST*** will examine the psychology behind collecting and the role collecting plays in preserving culture, traditions and memories for future generations.

For more information on ***CULTURE QUEST*** and upcoming Museum activities, please visit www.buffalomuseumofscience.org or call 716.896.5200.

COMING UP: MUSEUM'S ATTIC – the ONLY attic you'll love spending time in!

On **Saturday, October 4th**, the **5th Annual Museum's Attic (MA)**, the Science Museum's signature annual fundraising event, will be held at the museum from **6:30 to 11:00 p.m.** Individual tickets are **\$75** and **include dinner and dessert, and a cash bar is available.** Amidst a **CULTURE QUEST** inspired décor, guests can challenge themselves in a lively museum-wide treasure hunt; find that one-of-a-kind must-have in its eclectic auction; peek behind-the-scenes in a Curator-led behind-the-scenes tour; and enjoy live entertainment. **For this night only**, the museum's curators will feature rarely displayed treasures of the museum's collection for an exclusive viewing. Tables of ten and sponsorship opportunities are also available. All proceeds benefit the educational programs of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.



Further information on Museum's Attic is available by calling 716-896-5200. Tickets may be purchased online at www.sciencebuff.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 Tiffit Nature Preserve in South Buffalo, a 264-acre urban wetland preserve on reclaimed former industrial land and also seasonally sponsors archaeological exploration at the Hiscock Site in nearby Genesee County, NY, one of North America's richest Ice Age sites.

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