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DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A PREHISTORIC RESEARCHER? EXPLORASAURUS FEATURED AT SCIENCE MUSEUM THIS SUMMER To run July 12 through August 31, 2008

BUFFALO (June 13) – Do you dig fossils and mastodons? What do you know about the Ice Age in Western New York? What does a paleontologist really do? What are some of the latest discoveries on dinosaurs? These and many other questions will be explored this summer at **EXPLORASAURUS**, on view at the **Buffalo Museum of Science**, 1020 Humboldt Parkway, beginning **Saturday, July 12 through Sunday, August 31**. Summer hours at the Museum will be **Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** **EXPLORASAURUS** 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.

For more information on **EXPLORASAURUS** and upcoming Museum activities, please consult www.buffalomuseumofscience.org or call 716-896-5200.

EXPLORASAURUS is inspired by the ongoing Ice Age dig research conducted over the past 23 years by the Museum at the Hiscock Site in nearby Genesee County. The Hiscock site is one of North America's richest Ice Age sites, a post-glacial marsh which has yielded thousands of plant, animal and early PaleoIndian artifacts that have greatly enriched what is known about this region 10,000-12,000 years ago. Paleontologist/illustrator Research Associate William Parsons also participates each year in ongoing dinosaur research in Montana, through which new information has been gleaned on Deinonychus and previously unknown species. **EXPLORASAURUS** compares and contrasts these two very different research sites and the secrets they hold as well as the answers and theories they have provided to researchers.

EXPLORASAURUS will feature a full-scale representation of both the Hiscock and Montana dig sites which guests can fully explore. Hands-on activity stations developed by the museum's educators will guide explorers of any age to investigate:

- The traits and skills needed to be a prehistoric explorer, paleontologist or archaeologist.
- The relationship between fossils and rocks, and how fossils are formed.
- Why certain fossils are only found in particular areas, how we know where to look for fossils, and the technology used to find them.
- How paleontologists and archeologists map out items found in a dig site.
- Tools of the trade and how artifacts are unearthed, cleaned and documented.
- What researchers learn from fossils and artifacts about those creatures, their lives and their ancient environment.
- Who were some of the first fossil hunters were and what they discovered.
- Are there more fossils to find, more discoveries to be made? What do we know and what is still unanswered? What research is going on in Western New York and the rest of the world?

Also featured in **EXPLORASAURUS** are dinosaur and Ice Age specimens from the Museum's collection, some of which have not previously been on display. And there are more archaeology explorations underway in Western New York than you might think! These projects being conducted by SUNY Buffalo, Buffalo State College and other entities are included and mapped.

The Museum's long-term exhibit hall on the second floor discussing the ongoing Ice Age research at the Hiscock Site is being refurbished as part of **EXPLORASAURUS**. Video showing the work in progress at the Site is included, as are some of the most outstanding finds and a couple interactive discovery activities.

ENJOY EXPLORASAURUS AT BUBBLEFEST – SATURDAY, JULY 26

It's back, it's bigger, and it's even more bubbly! On Saturday, July 26 from 10am to 4pm, guests of all ages are invited to join the Buffalo Museum of Science for its fourth annual Bubblefest, and all-day celebration of the science and fun of bubbles. This year's event will feature **BubbleMania: Science, Art and Comedy!**, the amazing one-man show performed by **Casey Carle**, bubble master performer, BubbleOlogy author and Cirque du Soleil consultant.



Other activities at Bubblefest will include:

- The Bubble Man from Allen Street
- Bubble Tents: Experiment with Body Bubbles, Giant Bubble Tubes, Bubble Shapes and Bubble Technology. You can even take a Bubble Foam Shower!
- Best Bubble Contraption Contest
- Our Bubbling Sun Solar Observing (weather permitting) with the Buffalo Astronomical Association
- Bubble Art Room
- Robotics Teams from F.I.R.S.T.
- Tiny Bubbles: Bubble fun for our youngest explorers (for ages infant – 7)
- Susan Rozler: Mama Earth's Kitchen Entertainment
- Dave Ruch: musician and family entertainer

All Bubblefest activities are included in a special day admission price: \$8 adults, \$7 senior citizens, \$6 students and kids over age 3, which includes an all-access bubble bracelet. Science Museum members receive admission free but are charged \$1 per person for the bubble bracelet. Call 716.896.5200 for more information or visit www.buffalomuseumofscience.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.

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