



# PRESS RELEASE

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## SCIENCE MUSEUM FEATURES ART EXHIBITIONS WITH FALL EXHIBIT

“Vanitas”, “Tao of Water” and “Week Without Violence” exhibitions to be on display  
during *CULTURE QUEST* run

**BUFFALO (September 19, 2008)** - Several photography exhibits will be on display at the Buffalo Museum of Science during the run of its fall exhibit, *CULTURE QUEST*, open now through January 4, 2009. For more information on any of these exhibits, *Culture Quest* and upcoming Museum activities, please visit [www.buffalomuseumofscience.org](http://www.buffalomuseumofscience.org) or call 716.896.5200.

**“TAO OF WATER”**: September 20 – October 5, 2008

*Included with museum admission*



Visiting from the Zen Mountain Monastery in Mount Tremper, New York, “Tao of Water” is a visual reflection on various ways of seeing water. It is an attempt to go beyond appearances to capture the direct experience of water in its myriad manifestations. Photographed by Zen Master **John Daido Looi** over a period of two years among the rivers and streams near Raquette Lake in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York, “Tao of Water” explores the spirit and multi-faceted nature of water. “Water is neither strong nor weak, neither wet nor dry, neither moving nor still, neither cold nor hot, neither being nor nonbeing, neither delusion nor enlightenment.”

**“VANITAS”**: September 20, 2008 – January 4, 2009

*In the Museum’s atrium - free and open to the public*



With her “Vanitas” images, photographer **Patty Wallace** presents images that invoke mutability, the inevitable force of entropy and the futility of human vanity in the face of the temporality of the material world. Her subjects, apparently mundane yet finely crafted objects, are presented in a manner that forces our perception through a subaqueous patina evocative of the passage of time. Her Vanitas series is therefore a response to human isolation; everything she depicts is charged with special significance, “a translation of the commonplace into a language of uncommon meanings that transcend literal readings.” Wallace is a Western New York-based artist and teacher whose principal mediums are photography, painting and video. She is the former photographer for the Andy Warhol Foundation and the Brooklyn Museum. Her work has been widely exhibited in the U.S., Canada and Germany in individual and group shows and as part of multimedia collaborative installations.

**“WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE”: October 3 – December 31, 2008**

*In the Museum's atrium, free and open to the public*

The **YWCA of Western New York** has partnered with Crisis Services and the Buffalo Society of Artists to hold an art exhibition featuring photographs taken by inner-city teenagers that depict a life without violence. Teens were provided with disposable cameras in September and asked to take photos of scenes from their lives which best captures the week's theme. Members of the Buffalo Society of Artists helped lead discussions with teenagers to familiarize them with elements of artistic expression, including issues around composition and framing as well as the use of metaphor and irony. Their photographs were submitted to the art exhibition competition. Local artists – acting as judges, selected first, second and third place prizes. Winners will be announced at the **opening reception on Friday, October 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Buffalo Museum of Science**. The winners, as well as other photographers, will be present to discuss their work. The public is invited to attend the opening reception on Friday, sponsored by Key Bank.

“We expect the photos will be a collage of emotion – which will culminate in hope,” said YWCA CEO Katherine Lwebuga-Mukasa. “Through the eyes of these young people we will be able to see not only the current state of their lives, but the hopes and dreams they and we all share for improving them.”

Featured Exhibit --

**CULTURE QUEST: September 20, 2008 - January 4, 2009**

*Included with museum admission*



Our interests and passions feed our desire to collect things through time and travel. This hobby is a way our world keeps cultures and traditions alive and is a driving force behind the collections of priceless items displayed in museums around the world. **CULTURE QUEST** explores the history of the Buffalo Museum of Science and explains how the museum acquired its extensive collection of over 600,000 artifacts and specimens. The exhibit tells the stories of notable collectors who have made interesting and unique contributions to the museum's collection, including the museum's most dynamic president, Chauncey Hamlin. Select items from these collections will be on display along with personal collections on loan from famous Buffalonians, such as Charles Rand Penney and Robby Takac of the Goo Goo Dolls. **CULTURE QUEST** also examines the psychology of collecting and the driving force behind why people collect, as well as how collecting has preserved our history and cultures for future generations.

*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 Tift Nature Preserve in South Buffalo, a 264-acre urban wetland preserve on reclaimed former industrial land 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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