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**South Carolina State Museum Announces November and December
Calendar of Events, Planetarium Shows, 4D Movies and Exhibits**

COLUMBIA, S.C., Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2014— The South Carolina State Museum is excited to announce its November and December calendar of special events, planetarium shows, 4D movies and exhibits. The following will be held at the State Museum located at 301 Gervais Street in downtown Columbia.

Special Events:

Garage Sale: Nov. 1

Looking for a good bargain? You don't have to look much further because the State Museum is hosting its huge Garage Sale on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. – noon (8 – 9 a.m. special members-only preview sale). There will be a variety of fun and unusual props and graphics from previous exhibits for sale, including *Tutankhamun: Return of the King* and *Secrets of the Maya*. There will also be framed panels from traveling exhibits, as well as office supplies, furniture and more. At noon, purchase a black bag for \$5 and fill it with anything leftover from the sale. Please note: There are no artifacts in the garage sale. All items in the sale are props and were produced to enhance exhibits. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more.

First Citizens First Sunday: Nov. 2 and Dec. 7

General admission to the South Carolina State Museum is only \$1 for guests on the first Sunday of every month during First Citizens First Sunday, thanks to First Citizens bank. For an additional price, guests can experience the museum's new planetarium and 4D theater, as well as the blockbuster exhibit, *Dinosaurs: A Bite Out of Time*. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more.

Second Shift Twosdays: Every Tuesday

The museum is open late every Tuesday until 8 p.m. for Second Shift Twosdays. Every Tuesday evening there will be something special offered, which may include programs, planetarium shows, 4D movies, night observing, exhibit previews, special discounts and more. The entire museum will also stay open during these extended Tuesday evenings. Second Shift Twosdays are included with membership or general admission. Planetarium and 4D shows are an additional price.

- **"Tasting Twosdays":** Every Tuesday from 5 – 8 p.m. in December, the museum will host "Tasting Twosdays," in which all shoppers in the Cotton Mille Exchange museum store will receive wine and gourmet South Carolina food products while they shop. Store purchases of \$50 or more during "Tasting Twosdays" will include complementary gift wrapping.

Merry Mondays: Every Monday in December

Every Monday in December from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., enjoy special holiday music and gourmet South Carolina-made food samplings while you shop at the Cotton Mill Exchange museum store. The store is the perfect South Carolina gift destination and carries several local gourmet products made in South Carolina, including coffees, teas, grits, cookies, candies, BBQ sauces, jams and more. Store purchases of \$50 or more during "Merry Mondays" will include complementary gift wrapping. The store is open during normal museum hours. Museum admission is not required to shop in the store.

WinterFest: Dec. 20 – Jan. 3

The museum is celebrating the holiday season with two-weeks of exciting activities and programs. Different activities will take place each day during WinterFest, so please visit scmuseum.org for more details about each daily program. WinterFest is included with membership or general admission. Planetarium and 4D shows are an additional price.

Planetarium, 4D Theater and Observatory Programming:

BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Planetarium Shows: Visit scmuseum.org for a list of planetarium show times.

- **NEW! *The Christmas Star***, a holiday planetarium show, travels back in time to show what the night sky looked like 2,000 years ago and investigates when Jesus might have been born. The show takes the audience back to Jerusalem and Bethlehem and describes fascinating ideas about the Christmas Star. This is a seasonal show and will begin playing on Saturday, Nov. 8.
- **NEW! *Laser Holiday*** at the State Museum offers an exciting and unique way to celebrate the Holiday season. Sit back in the museum's brand new planetarium and enjoy a mix of holiday musical favorites choreographed to colorful and dramatic laser lights. This family-fun experience gives a new meaning to the term "holiday lights!" *Laser Holiday* is a seasonal show and will begin playing on Saturday, Nov. 8. *Please note: Laser shows contain bright, flashing lights that may cause discomfort to those with light sensitivity or other pre-existing conditions.*
- ***Back to the Moon for Good***, an exciting and educational show, will immerse you in a race to return to the Moon 40 years after the historic Apollo landings. This full dome presentation highlights the history of exploring the moon and provides an insider's look at the teams vying for the \$30 million Google Lunar XPRIZE, the largest incentivized prize in history. Narrated by Tim Allen, *Back to the Moon for Good* presents the Google Lunar XPRIZE, and the personal stories of competition and collaboration it inspires.
- ***Earth, Moon and Sun***, a kid-friendly planetarium show, explores the relationship between the Earth, Moon and Sun with the help of Coyote, an amusing character adapted from Native American oral traditions who has many misconceptions about our home planet and its most familiar neighbors. The show discusses why the Sun rises and sets, examines the Moon's orbit, craters, phases and eclipses and explores past and future space travel to our Moon and beyond.
- ***Two Small Pieces of Glass*** tells the story of the telescope, how it was invented and how it works from Galileo's modifications, to a child's spyglass, to the launch of NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. Featuring spectacular imagery of Saturn's rings, the spiral structure of galaxies and beautiful stellar nurseries, this show highlights how telescopes have helped us understand our place in the Universe. At the end of the show, there will be a live 10-minute sky tour.
- ***Seven Wonders***, a show that allows guests to turn back the pages of time and witness the ancient wonders of the world and Universe as they have not been seen for thousands of years. The show investigates the theories of how these wonders were created and gets a glimpse of some of the universe's greatest wonders.

Rev. Dr. Solomon Jackson, JR 4D Theater Movies: Visit scmuseum.org for a list of 4D movie times.

- **NEW! THE POLAR EXPRESS 4D Experience:** You're invited on an extraordinary 4-D adventure this holiday season on THE POLAR EXPRESS! When a doubting young boy takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole, he embarks on a journey of self-discovery that shows him that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe. Based on THE POLAR EXPRESS book and characters™ & ©1985 by Chris Van Allsburg. Used by permission of Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved. TM & © Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. *THE POLAR EXPRESS 4D Experience* is a seasonal movie and will begin playing on Saturday, Nov. 8.
- **Planet Earth: Pole to Pole:** A ground breaking series using HD photography and unique, specially developed filming techniques, *Planet Earth* takes you to places you have never seen before, to experience sights and sounds you may never experience again. This episode looks at our planet as a whole and considers the key factors that have shaped its natural history such as the sun, the oceans and the rain. For more than three years, BBC cameras recorded in time-lapse the fantastic annual transformation created by floods across the world. One second of high-octane action is slowed down 40 times to reveal for the first time the power and technique of the ocean's master predator. *Planet Earth: Pole to Pole* is a BBC/Discovery Channel/NHK co-production in association with the CBC.
- **Ice Age Dawn of the Dinosaurs – The 4D Experience!** Get ready for an adventure of mammoth proportions. Featured in eye-popping 3D with multisensory effects, including seat vibrations, air blasts, leg whips and more, *Ice Age Dawn of the Dinosaurs* delivers more thrills, more chills and more mammoth-sized laughs for everyone! *Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs*™ & © 2014 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. All rights reserved.

Solar Observing in the Boeing Observatory: Everyday

Come see the sun in real time at the South Carolina State Museum! Solar observing opportunities are available each day through the 1926 Alvan Clark 12 3/8-inch refracting telescope housed in the museum's new Boeing Observatory. Solar observing is included with museum general admission. Please note: *Observing can be done only if the sky is clear and may be canceled if the weather does not permit.* Visit scmuseum.org for a list of solar observing times.

Current Exhibits:

Dinosaurs: A Bite Out of Time: Open now through Sunday, Jan. 4, 2015

Journey back in time when monsters walked the earth, swam in the seas and soared through the skies in *Dinosaurs: A Bite Out of Time* at the South Carolina State Museum. The exhibit features robotic dinosaurs and strange creatures from prehistoric times, including the ferocious *Tyrannosaurus rex*, the massive *Stegosaurus*, the long-necked *Elasmosaurus* and the flying *Pteranodon*. A variety of hands-on activities will make the past come alive. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more.

Chapman's Charleston, 1863-1864: Open now through Sunday, Jan. 18, 2015

The South Carolina State Museum presents *Chapman's Charleston, 1863-1864*, a changing exhibit that tells the story of the Civil War in Charleston from 1863-1864 through the eyes of artist and Confederate soldier Conrad Wise Chapman. The 33 original Chapman paintings, shown for the first time in Columbia, examines art during the Civil War, the military defenses of Charleston against the Union siege and other artists who worked in the city during the war. The exhibit runs through Sunday, Jan. 18 and is included with general admission or museum membership. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more.

South Carolina Unearthed: Open now through Sunday, Feb. 1, 2015

The South Carolina State Museum's new natural history exhibit, *South Carolina Unearthed*, showcases a variety of specimens from the museum's extensive and nationally-known collection of animals that once inhabited South Carolina. The exhibit features a wide array of fossil animals like the American lion, long-nosed crocodile and saber-toothed cat, along with many other ancient beasts. *South Carolina Unearthed* is included with museum general admission or membership. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more.

Building a Universe: Open now through Sunday, March 15, 2015

The South Carolina State Museum presents *Building a Universe*, a new art exhibit featuring original work from 16 South Carolina artists whose work reflects the concept of the Universe, astronomy or science in either a very direct or conceptual way. In addition to this exhibit, additional site-specific work included in this project can be found in public spaces throughout the museum, on the front grounds and in the new planetarium lobby. The exhibit runs through Sunday, March 15, 2015 and is included with general admission or museum membership. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more.

Museum Pricing:

The State Museum offers special combination tickets for guest's to customize their adventure, starting with Explorer 1 (\$11.95 - \$13.95), Explorer 2 (\$14.95 - \$16.95) and Master Explorer (\$17.95 - \$19.95). The museum's best value is Master Explorer, which includes admission to the museum, as well as the planetarium, 4D theater and blockbuster exhibit. General admission to the museum is \$6.95 for children, \$7.95 for seniors and \$8.95 for adults. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more.

Museum Hours:

The State Museum, the Cotton Mill Exchange museum store and the Crescent Café are open every day of the year, except Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas day. The museum and museum store's hours are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with extended 5 – 8 p.m. hours on Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Saturday and 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. on Sunday. The Crescent Café hours are 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Saturday and 12 – 3 p.m. on Sunday. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more about the planetarium and 4D theater show times.

About the South Carolina State Museum: *As the state's largest and most comprehensive museum, the South Carolina State Museum, offers a unique, entertaining and educational experience to visitors throughout its 225,000 square foot facility located in the heart of downtown Columbia's Congaree Vista. The State Museum is housed in one of its greatest artifacts, an 1894 old textile mill full of character and charm. In addition to beautiful meeting spaces throughout the facility, guests can explore outer space in one of the largest planetariums in the Southeast, watch an interactive 4D movie and look through a vintage telescope in a one-of-a-kind observatory. These exciting opportunities are all in addition to the four floors of South Carolina art, cultural history, natural history and science/technology that guests can experience. Visit scmuseum.org to learn more.*

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