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Contact: **Ryan Kilpatrick**, CG&A, (312) 335-0100
Holly Dotterer, CG&A, (312) 335-0100

Science Chicago's Final "Science Saturday" Offers Behind-the-Scenes Summertime Science Fun

Participants enjoy an all-access pass to summer science events on July 18th

CHICAGO [July 8, 2009] – On July 18, Science Chicago's final Science Saturday tours will feature the science behind many of the region's most popular summer activities, like hanging out on the lakefront, working in the garden, going to outdoor concerts and – all too often – adjusting to rapidly changing weather.

Together with real science experts, science enthusiasts of all ages will have the unique opportunity to become scientists for a day by participating in a host of tours and activities, including: Lake Michigan aquatic life research, the ecology of Lake Michigan beaches, medicinal plant exploration, high-rise engineering, consumer products testing and development, natural habitat restoration and much more.

"Our final Science Saturday is like the science of summer break, in a lot of ways," said Cheryl Hughes, Executive Director of Science Chicago. "We can experience the sun and the sand, the water and the plants, but how often do we get a chance to learn about the many scientific wonders happening all around us as we simply laze at the beach?"

The year-long Science Chicago initiative, considered to be the world's largest science celebration, wraps up in August. Since the launch of the program in September 2008, more than 300,000 people have engaged with Science Chicago programs and online communities. Science Chicago's final Science Saturday will include events at parks and science institutions across the Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, including Shedd Aquarium, Chicago Botanic Garden and the National Weather Office. (See page 2 for details.)

A regular, monthly feature of the Science Chicago initiative, Science Saturdays were created to reveal the science in and around the city. They offered behind-the-scenes access to the area's leading research laboratories, technology manufacturers and universities. Guided by local scientists, engineers and other experts, Science Saturday tours quickly became a popular way to explore local science with kids of all ages.

"As Science Chicago enters its final months, this important initiative will continue to instill a passion for the sciences in kids of all ages with events such as Science Saturday," said David Mosena, President and CEO of the Museum of Science and Industry and Vice Chair of the Science Chicago Board of Advisors. "Many young people will be inspired to encourage science careers as a result of their unique experiences with Science Chicago and this will have a lasting impact on our community for years to come."

More information on the July 18 Science Saturday events can be found at:
<http://www.sciencechicago.com/content/science-saturdays>.

Click here to view images from previous Science Saturdays:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/sciencechicago/collections/72157607670316941/>

About Science Chicago

The Museum of Science and Industry is spearheading Science Chicago, a collaboration of more than 140 public and private institutions that have come together to present the world's largest science celebration. Designed to awaken the inner scientist in each and every one of us, thousands of dynamic and interactive activities will provide hands-on learning; spur thoughtful debate; enhance classroom learning; and build enthusiasm for the pursuit of cutting-edge science while establishing the critical value of science and math education.

For more information, visit www.sciencechicago.com.

Science Saturday Activities:

Click each link for more information

Saturday, July 18

- [Boats, Nets, Fish and Lake Michigan Research](#)
- [Fungi Foray](#)
- [The World of BioRobotics](#)
- [Indian Boundary Prairies Tour](#)
- [Beauty and the Beach](#)
- [Geocaching: Busse Woods](#)
- [Meteorological Marvels](#)
- [The Low Down on Sound](#)
- [Northrop Grumman: Readyng the Warfighter for the Fight](#)
- [Beauty in a Bottle: From Creation to Container](#)
- [DNA Discovery Center](#)
- [Aquatic Animals and Care](#)
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- [Imaging the Future](#)

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