

CATALYST

DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE MAGAZINE
SPRING 2020



INSIDE ///

THE SCIENCE BEHIND PIXAR

SPACE ODYSSEY UPDATE

NEW IMAX FILMS



Take a peek inside.

The Science Behind **PIXAR**

FINAL WEEKS!

Produced by

 **Museum of Science.**

The Science Behind Pixar was developed by the Museum of Science, Boston in collaboration with Pixar Animation Studios. © Disney/Pixar. All Rights Reserved. Used Under Authorization.

get tickets at
dmns.org/pixar

DEAR MEMBERS,

2019 was an incredible year of discovery. From rich temporary exhibitions and the jaw-dropping imagery of IMAX films to scientific breakthroughs with global impact and working side by side with community members to imagine and create future experiences, your support helped make a lot happen last year and puts us on track for a stellar 2020!

On January 17, we began our Friday evening hours in response to feedback from community members. Through the end of October, we will stay open until 10 p.m. on Friday nights. We invite you to stop by and see how we crank up the fun after 5.

On February 6, we officially launched the Curiosity Cruiser, bringing a taste of discovery to the community in places where people are already gathering: breweries, block parties, festivals.

By February 14, we opened four new IMAX films: *Hidden Pacific 3D*, *Amazon Adventure 3D*, *Into America's Wild 3D*, and *Dinosaurs of Antarctica 3D*.

And to wrap up our first quarter of the new decade, Space Odyssey will close for renovations on March 19. Like some stars collapse and explode into stunning nebulae, we're radically transforming Space Odyssey to ignite visitors' imaginations and inspire the space explorers and dwellers of the future in beautiful new ways. Turn to page 4 for a sneak peek of what you can look forward to when the exhibition reopens this fall.

As a friend of the Museum, Astronaut Kjell Lindgren generously donated several items for our collections and brought a few Museum objects to the International Space Station, including a 13,000 year old Clovis point. Flip to page 6 for the story and a breathtaking photo Lindgren took of the point while aboard the Space Station. I found myself lingering over that photo with a sense of awe at the limitless inspiration waiting to be discovered in our natural world.

Thank you for your support.



George Sparks, President and CEO
president@dmns.org



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FIND IT @ DMNS.ORG

- New Science Division website, dmns.org/science
- Print-at-home tickets for surcharged exhibitions, Planetarium and IMAX shows, lectures, and programs
- Reservations for members events
- Visiting tips and curated plans
- Membership renewals and purchases
- How to donate

Join Our Community:

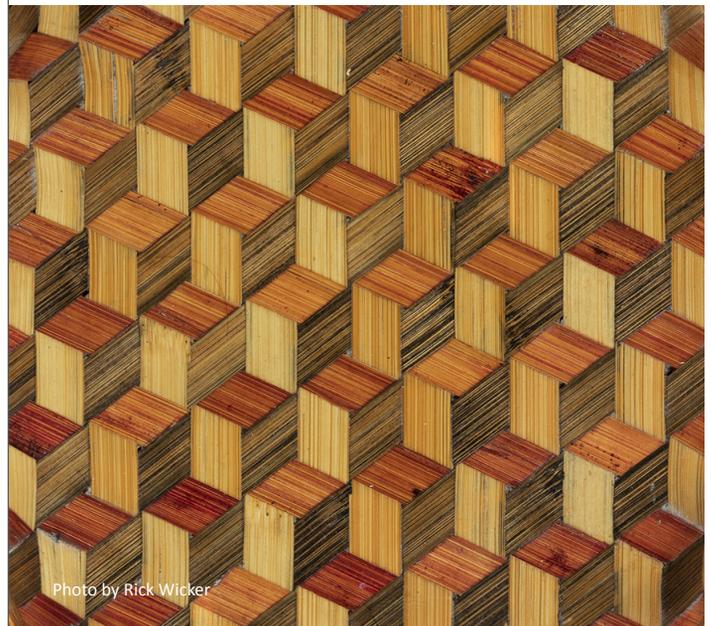


Photo by Rick Wicker

ON THE COVER

From the anthropology collections, AN-2014-131.26, bamboo plate circa 1980-1984 from Shengzhou, People's Republic of China. One of 40 pieces in the The Sharon La Pierre/Nancy Kuhl Collection donated to the Museum in 2014.

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• *Catalyst* is produced and published four times a year by the Denver Museum of Nature & Science for its members. • Address changes: members@dmns.org or 303.370.6306 (daily, 9–5) • IMAX is a registered trademark of the IMAX Corporation. • Denver Museum of Nature & Science exhibits and programs are made possible in part by the citizens of the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District. • Printed on recycled paper. ♻️
Photography by Rick Wicker, Chris Schneider, Jennie Crate.





SPRING BREAK TIPS

We look forward to seeing you during spring break at the Museum. Most of metro Denver will have spring break either the week of March 23 or 30. Please anticipate increased attendance during this time.

During peak times, early weekday mornings and late afternoons on weekends tend to be less crowded. And, remember, the Museum is now open until 10 p.m. on Fridays!

The Science of Pixar is in its final weeks. Tickets are required, and we encourage you to purchase in advance due to the popularity of the exhibition, which will close on Sunday, April 5.

The exhibition *Extreme Sports: Beyond Human Limits* is free for members and included with general admission for guests. It is open through Sunday, April 12.

Please allow plenty of time for parking. For quick and easy access once you are inside the Museum, purchase your tickets to IMAX, the Pixar exhibition, and Planetarium shows online and print your tickets at home.

If you're traveling for spring break, don't forget to take your membership card and enjoy free admission at 360 science centers and museums. This benefit begins outside a 90-mile radius of Denver and your residence. Get more info at astc.org/passport.



BRICK BUILDING CONTEST DEADLINE IS APRIL 24

The Art of the Brick is opening in June, featuring the original artworks of renowned LEGO® brick artist Nathan Sawaya. Local youth ages 3 to 18 years old are invited to share their talent in a brick building contest and show how LEGO bricks build endless possibilities! The winning creations will be displayed with the exhibition. Entries must be received by Friday, April 24. Contest information and official rules are at dmns.org/brick, where you'll also find a link to buy your tickets for the exhibition now.





ENJOY THE MUSEUM ON FRIDAY EVENINGS

The Museum is open until 10 p.m. every Friday. Admission prices remain the same. General admission is free for members, and tickets are on sale for upcharged temporary exhibitions, IMAX films (5 and 6 p.m.), and the Hollywood Favorite at 7 p.m. Food and beverages are also available for purchase. We look forward to kicking off the weekends with you!



CURIOSITY CRUISER IS ON THE ROAD!

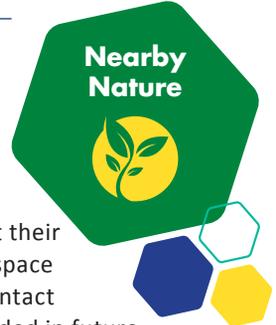
Keep an eye out for the Curiosity Cruiser, the Museum's new pop-up vehicle, now rolling out into the community loaded with multisensory experiences and interactive adventures that give a taste for discovery. For information about the Curiosity Cruiser, including how to book it for your event, visit dmns.org/curiositycruiser. Follow along at [#DMNScuriositycruiser](https://twitter.com/DMNScuriositycruiser).

CELEBRATE DÍA DEL NIÑO

The Museum is pleased to continue its partnership with the Mexican Cultural Center to present the seventh annual Día del Niño celebration on Sunday, April 26. This SCFD Community Free Day has become one of the most popular events at the Museum! Enjoy music and dance performances by local community groups as well as special crafts and other science and nature activities.

NEARBY NATURE

The design for Nature Play in City Park is underway! The Museum will continue to collaborate with Denver Parks and Recreation and engage with the community about their desires for this new and exciting space to connect with nature. Please contact natureplay@dmns.org to be included in future updates and opportunities to get involved. Updates are also available at dmns.org/nearbynature.



FOUR NEW IMAX FILMS NOW SHOWING

Explore the world with four new films in Phipps IMAX Theater.

Amazon Adventure 3D: Experience the true story of Henry Bates, who dedicated his life to science in the Amazon in the 1850s, literally risking his well-being to fulfill his intense quest to better understand our amazing world. His passion for knowledge not only impacts science to this day but also inspires the next generation of explorers.

Dinosaurs of Antarctica 3D: Explore how melting Antarctic ice is revealing the continent's history—including fossils of distinctive new animals. Encounter the prehistoric past and meet bizarre dinosaurs like *Cryolophosaurus*, and follow scientists as they search for ways to predict the future of the ice continent's profound transformation.

Hidden Pacific 3D: Travel to the Pacific Ocean and explore the Palmyra Atoll, Midway Atoll, and Rose Atoll, leaving you with a deeply felt appreciation for these extraordinary places and their critical role in the overall health of our Earth home.

Into America's Wild 3D: Take a cross-country journey to some of the most beautiful but undiscovered landscapes of America, from the lush coastline of Oregon and the wilds of Alaska to the ancient canyons of the Southwest and the rolling hills of the Appalachian Trail.

Also, don't forget to check out Hollywood Favorites, now showing on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings. For showtimes and tickets, visit dmns.org/imax.

SPACE ODYSSEY REIMAGINED TRANSFORMATION WILL LAUNCH IN LATE 2020!

Strap on your space helmet. *Space Odyssey* is about to undergo a major transformation. With our community as the inspiration, the exhibition will be revitalized with innovative experiences that fuel discovery about the world—and what lies beyond.

The new *Space Odyssey* is designed to be as captivating as space itself, where science, nature, art, technology, and wonder are seamlessly integrated into an unforgettable opportunity to foster a deeper, and enduring, understanding and appreciation of our home planet and the universe.

Listening to our communities has revealed that their curiosity about space science isn't driven by what we know but how we know it. The new *Space Odyssey* will be a quest for knowledge and a platform for you and your family to create your own connections to the things about space you find most personal and compelling.

Imagine this ... you will now be able to find out what space smells like! How can we know this? In fact, how do scientists know anything about space? In the new *Space Odyssey*, you will discover that the light reaching us from space is an incredibly rich smorgasbord of information, and that you and all humans are incredibly gifted detectives who can solve the mysteries surrounding the age, temperature, gravity, mass, size, and, yes, smell of space.



While the entire gallery will be transformed, some familiar elements will remain, including the Mars diorama and Science on the Sphere. The area surrounding Gates Planetarium will become a “Fantasy Spaceship,” where imagination, art, science, and stories meld together to create a rich environment to inspire thinking and reflection, and offer some unexpected surprises. Throughout *Space Odyssey*, new activities and exhibits for all ages will revolve around five themes, each focused on “a way of knowing” about space, Earth, ourselves, and our shared humanity:

- *Human Wonder*. We learn by imagining what is out there.
- *Space from Earth*. We learn by gazing at the stars.
- *Machines in Space*. We learn by sending machines beyond our reach.
- *Earth from Space*. We learn by examining our own world from space.
- *People in Space*. We learn by traveling to space ourselves.
- *Beyond Human Wonder*. We learn by imagining what remains to be discovered.

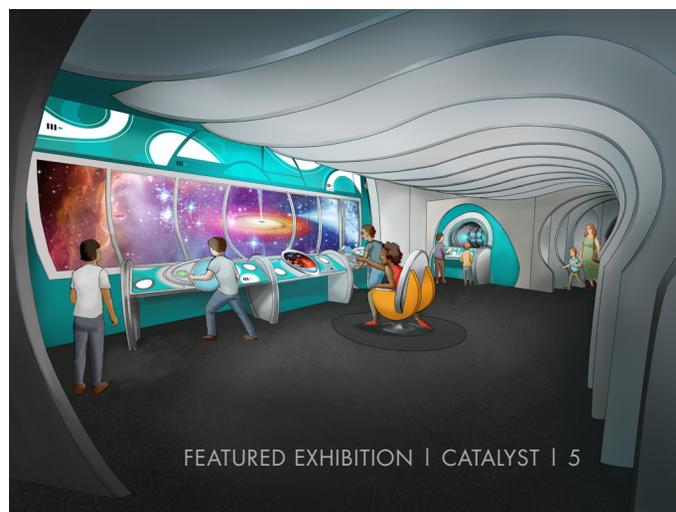
Together these big ideas will help bring into focus the story of space that has captivated the human imagination since people began looking up at the sky and wondering, “What’s out there?” Not only will you feel and understand what is happening beyond our planet and how it is relevant to your life, but it will also catalyze the next generation of explorers, problem solvers, creative strategists, and analytical thinkers.

Watch for more information in upcoming issues of *Catalyst* and stay up to date at dmns.org/spaceodyssey.

The transformation of *Space Odyssey* was made possible with support from many donors, including Mark & Martha Freeman, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Lockheed Martin, Blair & Kristin Richardson, and M. Patrick & Jo Ann Swingle.

FAST FACTS

- *Space Odyssey* closes for several months beginning Thursday, March 19.
- Watch for the grand reopening in November!
- The Planetarium will be temporarily closed at some point during construction. We’ll keep you posted.
- Continue to explore space science during construction with a variety of activities in the Museum and programs for adults and families.
- Join us on this mission. Make a gift today at dmns.org/sor.





MUSEUM ARTIFACT UNITES THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

In 2015, when astronaut Dr. Kjell Lindgren packed for his epic trip to the International Space Station, he tucked a very special connection to our Museum in his flight bag.

Astronauts are allowed to bring a few personal effects on their missions. Lindgren is very much a friend of the Centennial State because he's a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado

State University, and the University of Colorado Medical School. Lindgren graciously asked space scientist Dr. Steve Lee if he could take something from the Museum along for the ride.

Lee enlisted the help of Dr. Steve Nash, chair of the Department of Anthropology. "When deciding what object to send into space—not exactly your everyday task—the first thing to consider is size,



immediately ruling out many intriguing options, such as an Egyptian sarcophagus,” said Nash. “It’s also too risky to send something utterly unique, and we had to consider resiliency because riding in a rocket involves a lot of vibration.”

Ultimately, the anthropology staff selected a 13,000-year-old Clovis stone spear point from Illinois. It was only a few inches long and weighed less than an

ounce, and there are many similar examples in the collections. Its name comes from the distinctive style of spear points and other stone tools found southwest of Clovis, New Mexico, in 1932. The points were associated with the bones of large ice age animals, including woolly mammoths, camels, horses, bison, and ground sloths. Clovis sites have been found from Alaska to Florida, all radiocarbon dated from the same time period, from 12,900 to 13,200 years ago.

From July to December 2015, Lindgren and the Clovis point logged 141 days in space, completing 2,256 orbits of Earth and traveling 59.6 million miles. Lindgren participated in two spacewalks and in more than a hundred different scientific experiments. He also took the ultimate travel photo, capturing the stone point’s journey in space as it floats in zero gravity high above humankind’s home.

As the fifth anniversary of his mission approaches, Lindgren reflected on the image. “When I took the Clovis point out in the Cupola, I was struck by the enormity of what we have accomplished as a human race,” he said. “Attached to a spear or dart shaft, the Clovis point was likely one of the fastest human-made objects at that time. It represented the pinnacle of aerodynamic engineering when it was created. And here it was, in a man-made habitat, flying at five miles per second. The original creator of that Clovis point could not possibly conceive of how far and fast it would someday travel. It makes you wonder what amazing achievements and technology lay in our future.”

The photo is a beautiful reminder of why space will never cease to capture the awe and imagination of humans.

DISCOVER MORE

Keep an eye out for the exploration station near the exit of *Prehistoric Journey* to see an example of the type of Clovis point that flew on the International Space Station.

The new *Space Odyssey*, coming in November 2020, will feature space flight artifacts generously loaned to the Museum by Kjell Lindgren. Stay updated on the transformation at dmns.org/spaceodyssey.

A COLLECTION OF SURVIVAL AND RESISTANCE

BY CHIP COLWELL, PhD

When Christopher Columbus accidentally stumbled on the Americas in 1492, millions of Native peoples called North America home. Four hundred years later, there were only about 250,000 Native Americans left. Disease, displacement, and violence left Native peoples on the precipice of extinction.

Following the close of the Indian Wars in 1890, the U.S. government resolved that the best way to usher Native Americans into the new century was by forcibly assimilating them. For adults, it was too late; however, government officials reckoned that children were still impressionable enough. While some parents willingly sent their children to the schools that opened up across the country, many more parents had their children taken from them. Once at school, children were stripped of their traditional clothing, language, family, and ways of thinking. Teachers inserted Victorian norms in their place.

Between 1893 and 1903, Jesse H. Bratley worked in Indian schools across five reservations in the American West. As a teacher, Bratley was charged with forcibly assimilating Native Americans through education. Although tasked with eradicating their culture, Bratley became entranced by it—collecting artifacts and taking glass plate photographs to document the Native America he encountered.

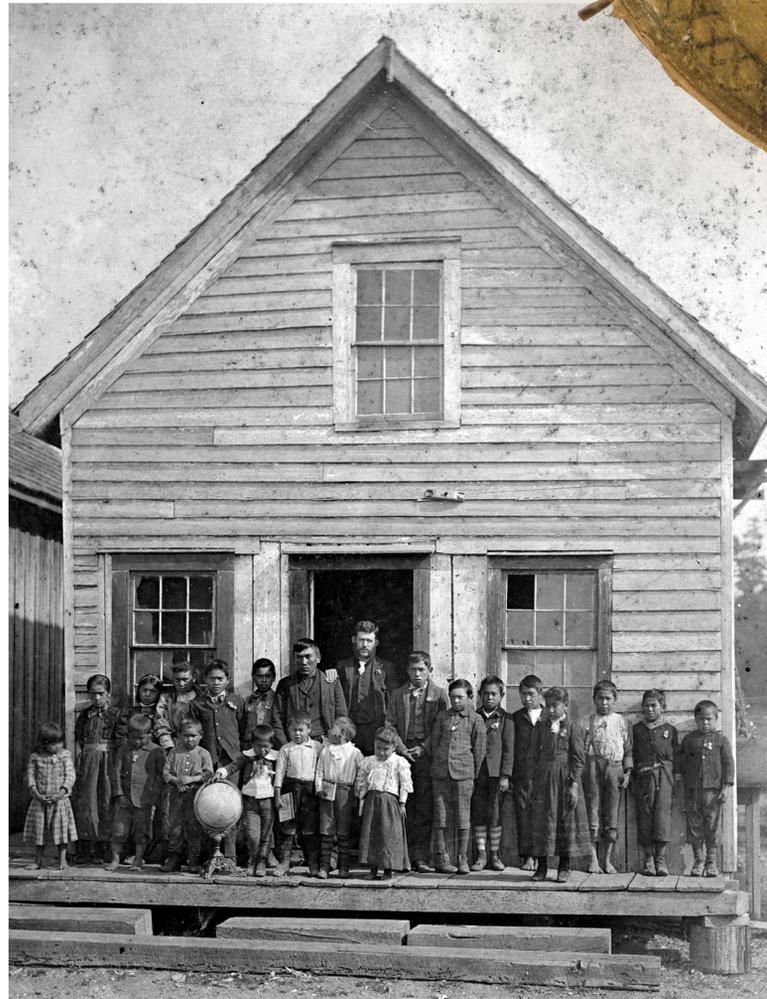
Today, our Museum is home to Bratley's collection of nearly 500 photographs and 1,000 artifacts traced to the S'Klallam, Lakota Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Havasupai, Hopi, and Seminole peoples.

Bratley occupied a perfect gray zone. He was a supporter of Indian schools but not its architect, a collector with only vague aspirations to anthropological seriousness, a photographer variously motivated by entrepreneurship, documentary voyeurism, and romantic dreams. He leaves behind an unusual visual and material testimony of one of the most profoundly important moments in the history of contemporary Native America. Bratley's story allows us to witness Native Americans' dramatically shifting way of life—the tangled processes of civilizing, resistance, and persistence—as the 19th century surrendered to the modern age.

In the new book *Objects of Survivance: A Material History of the Indian School Experience*, Dr. Lindsay M. Montgomery and I contend that Bratley's collection constitutes “objects of survivance,” things and images that testify not to destruction and loss but to resistance and survival. Borrowing from a term coined by Anishinaabe scholar Gerald Vizenor, survivance is “more than survival, more than endurance or mere response ... survivance is an active repudiation of dominance, tragedy, and [victimhood].”

Rejecting the narrative that the artifacts preserve dying Native cultures, *Objects of Survivance* reframes the collection made by Bratley, showing how tribal members have reconnected to these items, embracing them as part of their past and reclaiming them as part of their contemporary identities. This singular visual and material record of the early American Indian school experience is the story of tribal perseverance.

Bratley matters because the historical moment in which he found himself was utterly pivotal. Would the continent's first peoples wither and evaporate like a dying spring? Or would they persist and survive? And even if they survived would it be in





any recognizable form as Indians—or would they fully meld into Anglo-American society? Just as Bratley himself was a man in between worlds, so too were Native Americans, ensnared between their traditional loyalties and the prospects of a terrifying modernity. More than a century later we know that those who were to vanish did not: Instead, they endured.

However, the U.S. government’s cruel mathematics of cultural subtraction and the equation of Native people’s survival must be remembered. For in this story are planted the seeds of understanding why one group of people seeks to extinguish another. And how those victims may oppose and outlast the forces of their destruction.

DISCOVER MORE

Dr. Chip Colwell is senior curator of anthropology in the Department of Anthropology, dmns.org/science/anthropology.

Colwell and his coauthor, Dr. Lindsay Montgomery, of the University of Arizona, will discuss their book during a Museum program on Thursday, March 12. Tickets are on sale at dmns.org.

Objects of Survivance (University of Colorado Press) is available for purchase in the Museum Shop, where members receive a 10 percent discount, or wherever you get your books.

Jesse H. Bratley took hundreds of photographs and collected hundreds of objects that document the transformation of Native Americans—and the resistance to their subjugation—during the early Indian school era. *Left:* Bratley with his S’Klallam pupils, Washington State (DMNS BR61-494). *Center:* A rawhide drum collected on the Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota (DMNS AC.5727). *Below:* A photograph Bratley titled, *Before Entering School*, on the Rosebud Reservation in 1897 (DMNS BR61-286).





MAKE AN IMPACT AT SCIENCE ON TAP

Science on Tap, which started as a fun benefit for the Museum's Young Professionals, has grown into a very popular fundraising event over the past several years. Don't miss this year's opportunity to join about 500 enthusiastic young leaders from our community as you experiment, build, connect, sip, taste, and dance, all while supporting science education.

Coming in May 2020, this year's Science on Tap will once again combine fun, immersive Science Stations with music and cocktails to create a truly unique evening for 21+ guests in a way only the Museum can!

Adam Beaves, philanthropic programs manager, is looking forward to telling you more about how your company or organization can make an impact in our community and elevate your company's visibility. Contact Adam for sponsorship or bulk ticket discount information at 303.370.8251 or adam.beaves@dmns.org.

DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF UPGRADING

Do you like free tickets? Then you'll want to upgrade to the Giving Club! In addition to supporting scientific research and education, upgrading your membership to the Curator level gives you free tickets and special access throughout the year to events and exhibits—even when they're sold out!

- Complimentary Flex Tickets (14) for you or your friends and family to use for popular exhibitions such as *The Science Behind Pixar*, now open, and *The Art of the Brick*, opening in June, select evening lectures, and IMAX and Planetarium shows. Flex Tickets let you design your benefits based on your personal interests.

- Invitations to special events throughout the year, including the popular Behind-the-Scenes Night and IMAX Night, just for Giving Club members.

- First access to summer camp registration, even before other members!

As a Giving Club member, your gift supports ongoing scientific research, preserves rare artifacts, and fuels lifelong discovery in the millions of people served by Museum exhibitions and programs. Upgrade today by logging in to your online Museum account and start enjoying additional benefits right away.

Find out more at dmns.org/givingclub or call 303.370.6306. Monthly installment plans start at just \$42 per month.



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BIG DATA IN THE MUSEUM

BY JOHN DEMBOSKI, PhD

The country is about to embark on an enormous task in 2020, counting and collecting demographic information from the approximately 330 million people that live in the United States. This inventory of our population is legally required and occurs every decade. The Science Division also engages in a complicated inventory of the Museum's collections on a daily basis. This involves keeping track of our approximately 4.3 million objects and specimens and their associated information, stories, media, and research products. If we don't have a good handle on our inventory, then we can't share it with the scientific community or the public, and the value of our collections is lost or diminished. This monumental task is managed by our Science Division staff, along with invaluable support from approximately 700 Museum volunteers.

Concurrent with rapid 21st century advances in data management, be it scientific, retail, financial, or other consumer data, has been our increased ability to manage the millions of objects and specimens in museum collections. This has allowed us to compile, archive, and publish the Museum's Big Data. The handwritten tags of yesteryear were extremely limiting. In many collections today, tools from the retail world, such as barcoding, allow us to easily find and track items in our databases.

For example, our Arctos database, used to host and manage multiple zoology collections (birds, mammals, marine invertebrates, parasites, amphibians, and reptiles) allows us to capture a wealth of information – or metadata – related to specimen numbers; collector; preparators; geography with interactive maps; measurements and other biological information; usage of the specimen (publications, datasets, data use metrics); images and other media such as scans of fieldnotes, links to other specimens in the Museum, and links to other databases. Additionally, powerful georeferencing tools allow us to assign precise geographic coordinates to specimens that were collected 100 years ago or more, long before the advent of technology like GPS devices.

Equally exciting in this time of Big Data is the publication of our specimen records to large portals or data aggregators that are easily accessible to the public via the internet. The Zoology collections consist of nine collections with approximately 1.27 million specimens whose records are currently available online through Arctos or Symbiota, with data also published to nine of these portals that host records from other museums and collections.

Are you beginning to see where the “big” in Big Data comes from?

Let's say you were interested in the least chipmunk (disclaimer: I research chipmunks), a small, but common ground squirrel that lives in Colorado and across western North America. You could search Arctos and find information on the 680 least chipmunks in the Museum's mammal collection. If you wanted a more complete picture of this species over time and space, you could access data on 19,600 least chipmunks using the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). GBIF is the Amazon of one-stop biodiversity shopping and is heavily used by the scientific community.

Why are museums spending time and resources digitizing object and specimen records? It's the modern way to organize and track our collections, and allows researchers to easily find our specimens. Even more importantly, it allows the scientific community easy access to valuable data points that are being used to address the big global questions related to climate change, biodiversity and habitat loss, invasive species, ecological shifts, human health, food security, etc., in a rapidly changing world.

TRY A GBIF SEARCH FOR YOURSELF:

1. Go here: <https://www.gbif.org/publisher/a2ef6dd1-8886-48c9-8025-c62bac973cc7>
2. Click on green box in upper right corner with 250,132 records
3. On the left, under scientific name, type “*Tamias minimus*”, for the least chipmunk
4. Choose table or map or click individual records to see DMNS holdings of the least chipmunk

HEARD ABOUT ReFUND CO?

A new state tax refund donation program allows you to use some or all of your refund to directly support our work in the community! Use our registration number [20023005539] and make a difference this tax season. www.refundwhatmatters.org

**Re
FUND**



Registration #:
20023005539

MEMBERS APPRECIATION DAY SUNDAY, MAY 3

Enjoy these special discounts just for you!

- 20% off on select items* in the main Museum Shop
- 20% off in the T-Rex Cafe and Grab & Go
- 50% off IMAX and Planetarium tickets
- 10% off gift memberships

*Extra 10% discount does not apply to books. Special offers are valid in person only and must be used on May 3, 2020.

GET THE MOST FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP

- Visit anytime for free 364 days a year!
- Share your free guest general admission ticket(s) with friends or family.
- Make sure your eCard is up to date with version 3.2.2, or download your free eCard if you haven't yet. Find out more at dmns.org/ecard.
- Read the monthly eNews with members-only news, tips, and special offers. Not hearing from us by email? Send your address to members@dmns.org.
- Keep your membership current with Auto-Renew. Enroll online or by calling 303.370.6306 (daily, 9–5) and get a free gift. Your expiration date is printed on the mail label on the back of this magazine.
- Pack your membership card! Receive free or reduced admission at 360 science centers and museums outside a 90-mile radius of Denver and your residence through the ASTC Passport Program, astc.org/passport.
- Upgrade to the Family Plus level or higher and enjoy free admission to the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.
- Add your nanny or babysitter to your membership for only \$50. Because memberships are nontransferable, it is important to not lend your card to someone who isn't named on the membership. The add-on member enjoys many benefits. Not valid on Individual level memberships.

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

- 303.370.6306 (daily, 9–5)
- members@dmns.org
- www.dmns.org/members
- Members Lane at Ticketing

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BE INSPIRED BY WOMEN IN SCIENCE!

Where: Denver Museum of Nature & Science,
2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO 80205

When: Saturday, March 7, 2020, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Tickets: This event is included in the price of Museum admission.

Ages 3–18: \$4 general Museum admission

Members: Free

SNAP Access: Free, present your EBT card at Ticketing

Military: \$3 discount at the Museum for all who serve or have served in the U.S. military with a valid ID

Organized Youth Groups: Free with advance reservations at 303.370.6000

Scholarships Available*

IMAX: tickets will be 50% off on March 7 for daytime shows only and must be purchased onsite the day of the event, first come, first served.

What: The Denver Museum of Nature & Science and CBS4 are excited to host the sixth annual Girls & Science event. Come explore the many diverse opportunities a future career in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math can bring. Girls (and boys!) and their families will meet women mentors in STEAM careers in “Clubhouses” with hands-on activities and a series of short presentations called Stories with Scientists. Bring the whole family for a day all about igniting a passion for science—so try it on, test it out, and play!



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www.dmns.org/girlsandscience
Follow the fun at #girlsandscience

*Free admission is available for families in need of financial assistance to attend this event. Please call 303.370.6000 in advance or see a Museum ticketing agent on March 7 for information.



FOR MEMBERS ONLY!

Numbers in Nature: A Mirror Maze

Be among the first to enjoy *Numbers in Nature: A Mirror Maze*, a unique, immersive experience about math that's hardly by the numbers. The exhibition beautifully illustrates how patterns surround us in nature. You will enjoy fun hands-on activities to spot patterns in music, art, architecture, and even your own body. The centerpiece is a giant mirror maze—a sea of equilateral triangle chambers that feel as if you've stepped into a kaleidoscope. *Numbers in Nature* adds up to a wonderful new way to look at the world around you!

Reservations open April 20 at dmns.org/memberevents.

MEMBERS-ONLY PREVIEW DAY

THURSDAY, MAY 14 • 9 A.M.–9 P.M.

Ticket required. See it before it opens to the public!

MEMBERS-ONLY EVENING

TUESDAY, MAY 26 • 6–9 P.M.

Ticket required. An optional prepurchased dinner is available for an additional charge: \$14 adult, youth, senior member; \$9 child. **Dinner reservations due by May 12.**

MEMBERS-ONLY EVENING FOR 21+

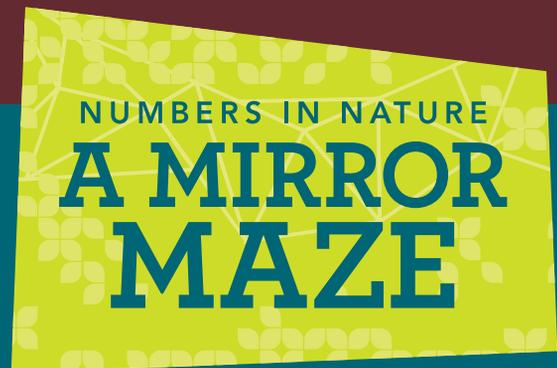
TUESDAY, JUNE 30 • 6–9 P.M.

\$50 member, \$60 nonmember

In addition to an adults-only evening in the exhibition, enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar followed by dinner.

Reservations due by June 16.

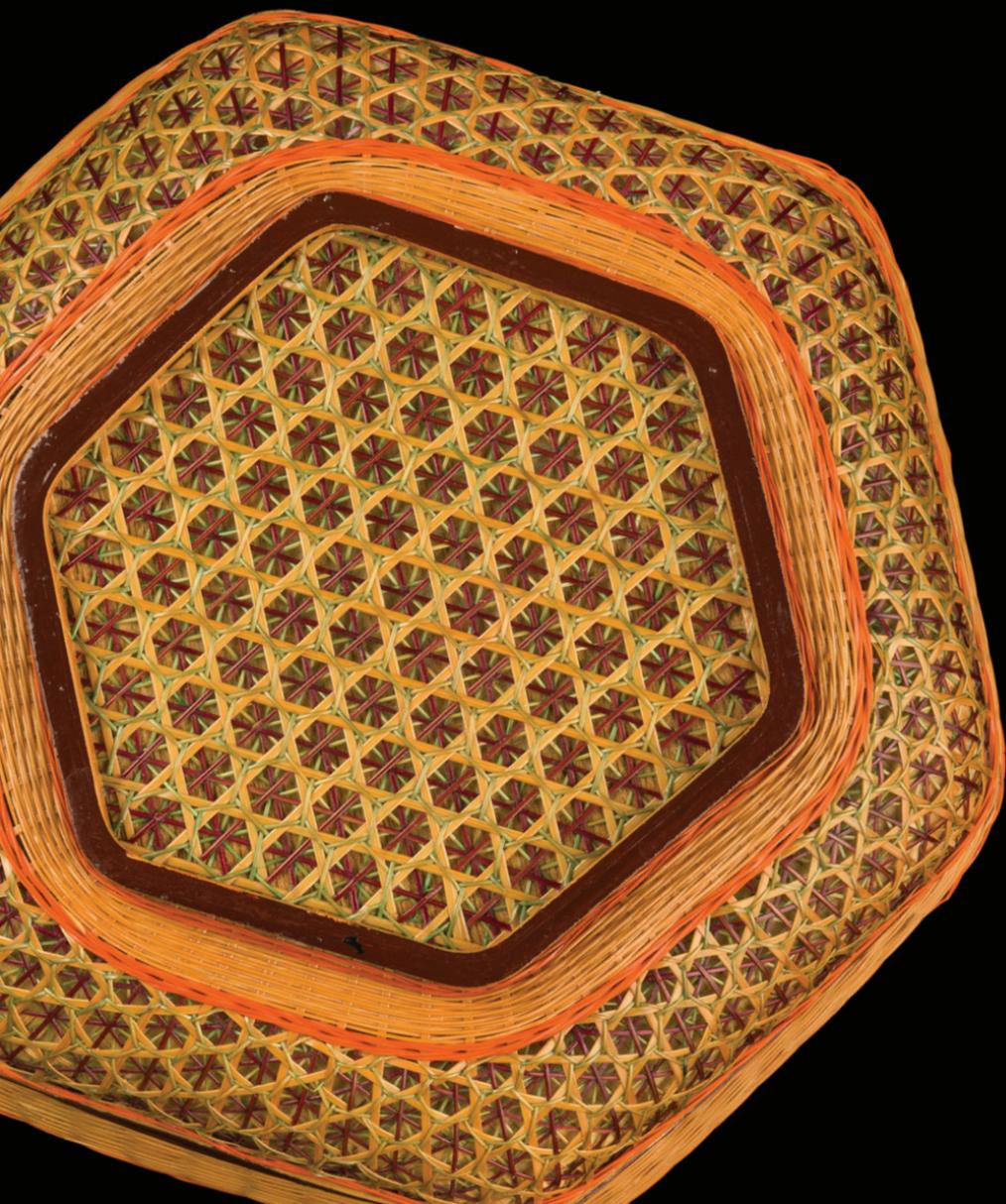
Events subject to selling out. No walk-up tickets will be available. Exhibition entry by timed ticket due to gallery capacity. Only *Numbers in Nature: A Mirror Maze* will be open on Members Evenings; the rest of the Museum will be closed.



DISCOVER

ADULTS | CHILDREN | FAMILIES | TEENS

SPRING 2020



FRI DAY

EVENING
HOURS

NOW OPEN UNTIL 10 P.M. ON FRIDAYS!

Admission prices remain the same:
Free for members, tickets required for IMAX
and *The Science Behind Pixar*.

SPRING 2020

EXHIBITIONS

The Science Behind Pixar

Now open through April 5 • Phipps Gallery • Special timed ticket required
Get hands-on with science, technology, math, art, and engineering concepts used at Pixar Animation Studios to bring their beloved films and characters to life.

Extreme Sports: Beyond Human Limits

Now open through April 12 • Anschutz Gallery • Free for members
Experience the thrill of extreme sports in interactive exhibits and immersive environments that go inside the minds and bodies of some of the world's greatest athletes.

Numbers in Nature: A Mirror Maze

May 15–August 30 • Anschutz Gallery • Free for members
Enjoy fun activities to spot patterns in music, art, architecture, and the human body, highlighted by a giant mirror maze that feels as if you've stepped into a kaleidoscope.

The Art of the Brick

Opens June 19 • Phipps Gallery • Special timed ticket required
Be wowed by how renowned contemporary artist Nathan Sawaya has taken LEGO® bricks from beloved toys to artistic marvels, including a *T. rex* made out of 80,000 bricks.

PHIPPS IMAX THEATER • Now showing

Amazon Adventure 3D

Dinosaurs of Antarctica 3D

Hidden Pacific 3D

Into America's Wild 3D

Hollywood Favorites • Visit dmns.org/imax

GATES PLANETARIUM • Now showing

Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity

Destination Solar System

Imagine the Moon

One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure

Space Tours Live

ADMISSION • Special ticket required for *The Science Behind Pixar*.

	MUSEUM	IMAX	PLANETARIUM
Adult member	FREE	\$7	\$5
Senior member (65+)	FREE	\$6	\$4
Youth member (3–18)	FREE	\$6	\$4

The Museum is open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Now open until 10 p.m. every Friday!
Dates, times, prices, and schedules subject to change. Find more ways to discover at dmns.org.

On the cover: From the Anthropology collections, AN-2014-131.16,
bamboo basket circa 1980-1984 from Shengzhou, People's Republic of China.

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					<i>Hollywood Films Every Fri, Sat, & Sun</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	6 Museum open until 10 p.m.!	7 Girls & Science
8 Daylight savings time begins	9	10	11 Indigenous Film, p. 5	12 Objects of Survivance, p. 5	13 Museum open until 10 p.m.!	14 Family Overnight, p. 11
15	16	17	18 Members Morning in <i>Space Odyssey</i>	19 <i>Space Odyssey</i> closed for transformation Spring Equinox	20 Beetles Portrait, p. 9 Museum open until 10 p.m.!	21
Spring Break Camp						
22	23	24	25 60 Minutes in Space, p. 6*	26	27 Bird Walk, p. 8 Museum open until 10 p.m.!	28
Spring Break Camp						
29	30	31	<i>Discover more @ dmns.org</i>			

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Spring Break Camp						
				Great Space Escape, p. 6	Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
			1	2	3	4
<i>The Science Behind Pixar</i> closes	Handprints on Hubble, p. 6	<i>Extreme Sports</i> Members Evening	Indigenous Film, p. 5		Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Extreme Sports</i> closes				Science Riot, p. 6	Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
			Earth Day 2020, p. 6	Bird Walk, p. 8	Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
SCFD Community Free Day (Día del Niño) 		Photography for Amateur Birders, p. 9	60 Minutes in Space, p. 6* Three Billion Birds Lost, p. 7	Family Fossil Fun, p. 11		
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
					1	2
Members Appreciation Day					Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Hawaiian Album, p. 7	Indigenous Film, p. 5	<i>Numbers in Nature: A Mirror Maze</i> Members preview	<i>Numbers in Nature</i> opens Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
				Bird Walk, p. 9	Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24		<i>Numbers in Nature</i> Members Evening	60 Minutes in Space, p. 6*		Museum open until 10 p.m.!	
SCFD Community Free Day 						
31	25	26	27	28	29	30

After HOURS

AT THE DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE



The Evolution of Pixar*

Don't miss this unique opportunity to view Pixar shorts from the last 30 years on the big screen, from *Luxo Jr.* (1986) to *Bao* (2018). Explore the evolution of Pixar films with Craig Svonkin, associate professor of English, Metropolitan State University of Denver. Svonkin will look at the technological advances and social and cultural changes that have shaped these innovative films. Cosponsored by D-phi (The Denver Project for Humanistic Inquiry).

Tuesday, March 3 • 7 p.m. • Phipps Theater • \$15 member, \$18 nonmember

Indigenous Film Series

The Museum is pleased to partner with the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management and the Denver American Indian Commission to present the monthly Indigenous Film series. Join us for a variety of films, from documentaries to feature films and youth film showcases. Then participate in a discussion with the Denver American Indian Commission and other special guests.

Wednesdays, March 11, April 8, May 13 • 6:30 p.m. • Phipps Theater • Free

Objects of Survivance

Between 1893 and 1903, Jesse H. Bratley worked in Indian schools across five reservations in the American West and was charged with forcibly assimilating Native Americans through education. Although tasked with eradicating their culture, Bratley became entranced by it—collecting artifacts and taking glass plate photographs. Today, the Museum is home to the Jesse H. Bratley Collection, consisting of nearly 500 photographs and 1,000 objects. In their book *Objects of Survivance: A Material History of the American Indian Experience*, Lindsay Montgomery and Dr. Chip Colwell posit that Bratley's collection constitutes "objects of survivance," things and images that testify not to destruction and loss but to resistance and survival. Rejecting the narrative that such objects preserve dying Native cultures, *Objects of Survivance* reframes the Bratley Collection, showing how tribal members have reconnected to these items, embracing them as part of their past and reclaiming them as part of their contemporary identities.

Thursday, March 12 • 7 p.m. • Ricketson Auditorium • \$8 member, \$10 nonmember • Book sale & signing

60 Minutes in Space*

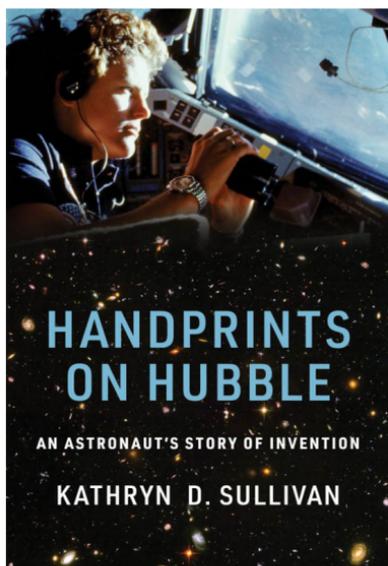
Go “behind the stories” with space scientists Dr. Steve Lee and Dr. Ka Chun Yu as they use the best images and animation available to help understand new developments. No reservations required. Seating is first-come, first-served.

Wednesdays, March 25, April 29, May 27 • 7 p.m. • Ricketson Auditorium • Free

Great Space Escape*

Strap on your space boots for a crash course in constellations and galactic hijinks with a pair of cosmically comical astronomers. It’s part stand-up, part science, part history, and all parts fun. Cash bar opens 30 minutes before showtime, so come early and grab a drink. Ages 21+.

Thursday, April 2 • 6 or 8 p.m. • Gates Planetarium • \$15 member, \$18 nonmember • Cash bar



Handprints on Hubble*

Meet Kathryn Sullivan, the first American woman to walk in space and one of the first six women to join NASA’s storied astronaut corps. In her book, *Handprints on Hubble*, Sullivan recounts how she and other astronauts, engineers, and scientists launched, rescued, repaired, and maintained the Hubble telescope, the most productive observatory ever built. Sullivan chronicles her early life as a “Sputnik Baby,” her path to NASA, her initiation into the space program as one of “35 new guys,” and her various space adventures, such as what liftoff feels like. Sullivan describes inventing the tools and processes that made it possible for NASA to fix a serious defect in Hubble’s mirrors—leaving literal and metaphorical “Handprints on Hubble.”

Monday, April 6 • 7 p.m. • Phipps Theater • \$15 member, \$18 nonmember • Book sale and signing

Science Riot*

Cheer on local scientists turned comedians as they attempt standup for the first time and wax hilarious about the unique nuances of their work. This one-of-a-kind comedy night for science fans will get you laughing with (and at!) some of the biggest brains in town. Ages 18+.

Thursday, April 16 • 7:30 p.m. • Ricketson Auditorium • \$15 member, \$18 nonmember • Cash bar

Earth Day 2020: Climate Change Solutions*

Celebrate Earth Day’s 50th anniversary with an evening of insightful conversation focused on innovation, technology, policy, and effective communication strategies to address climate change. Join Mike Nelson, Denver7 chief meteorologist, for a moderated panel discussion and an audience Q&A with Dr. Paul Denholm, principal analyst at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory; Alice Jackson, president of Xcel Energy Colorado; and Dr. Dione Rossiter, Executive Director of the University of California Berkeley’s Science at Cal program. The event is presented by the Institute for Science & Policy, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, and Denver 7 as part of Denver’s Earth Week 2020.

Wednesday, April 22 • 7 p.m. • Phipps Theater • \$12 member, \$15 nonmember



Canaries in the Mine: Three Billion Birds Lost*

Last year, the headlines that 3 billion birds have disappeared from North America since 1970 shocked the world and captured our attention. The source of the news was “Decline of the North American Avifauna,” published in the journal *Science* by author Ken Rosenberg of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and his team of coauthors, including local avian conservation scientist, Arvind Panjabi, from Bird Conservancy of the Rockies. This groundbreaking research combined population sizes and trends for 520 species of birds, with much of the data coming from Bird Conservancy’s Avian Conservation Assessment Database. Arvind will share how the study was conducted, where the greatest certainties and uncertainties lie, and what it means for birds in Colorado and across North America. He’ll also share ways we can all help reverse bird population declines including simple steps we can take in our daily lives and backyards. This program is presented in partnership with Bird Conservancy of the Rockies with promotional support from Audubon Society of Greater Denver and Audubon Rockies.

Wednesday, April 29 • 7 p.m. • Phipps Theater • \$12 Museum, Bird Conservancy, or Audubon member, \$15 nonmember

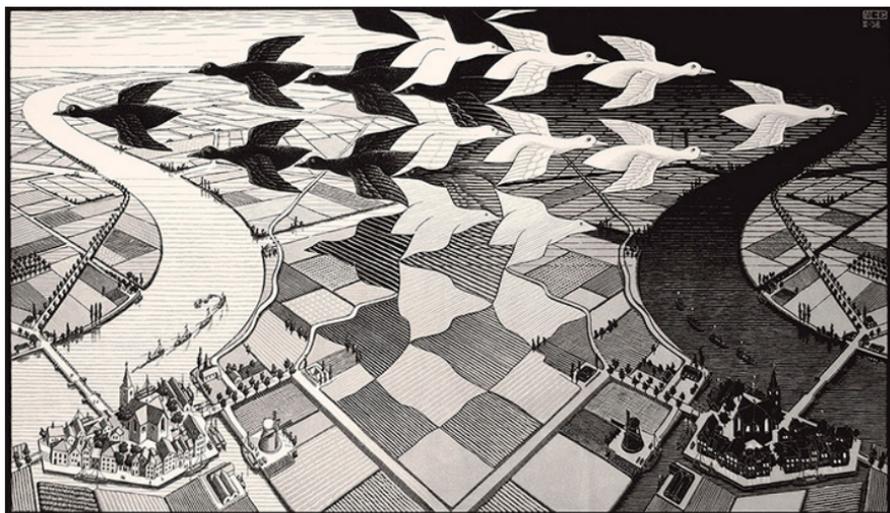


Hawaiian Album*

See Hawaii and its natural splendor through the eyes of Dr. Alfred M. Bailey, who was director of the Museum during the mid-20th century. Bailey conducted fieldwork around the world, documenting it through journals, photographs, and moving images. In 1961, Bailey presented *Hawaiian Album* to an enthusiastic audience during his popular Film Lecture Series. In those days, he spoke live to the audience with the silent film projected on the screen. Today, the Image Archives Department has re-created the moment with the help of Cinema Lab by taking Bailey’s film and audio to produce a digital motion picture. The

film covers Bailey’s travels through the Hawaiian chain, with a particular focus on birds. This special premiere will be hosted by René O’Connell, Museum image archivist, and Robert David of Cinema Lab, as they discuss film preservation and the digitization process.

Tuesday, May 12 • 7 p.m. • Ricketson Auditorium • \$8 member, \$10 nonmember



Escher's Universe*

Step into *Escher's Universe*, a full-dome film based on the life and work of the multifaceted Maurits Cornelis Escher. Escher had a unique ability to join mathematics, astronomy, optics, and geometry together in art. Shapes, three-dimensional reconstructions, dual worlds, unreal buildings, or impossible continuities in this show reveal his continuous search for knowledge. After the film, psychologist Dr. Timothy Sweeny, from the University of Denver, will discuss how the brain impacts the way people see the world around them.

Tuesday, June 2 • 6 or 8 p.m. • Gates Planetarium • \$12 member, \$15 nonmember

BIRD WALKS

Join expert birder Norm Lewis on birding outings across the front range. Transportation is not included. Participants caravan from a meeting location. Reservations required.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge

By late March, ice on lakes and reservoirs is beginning to clear and waterfowl are abundant. Ducks, geese, grebes, cormorants, hawks, eagles, and falcons are either just departing or just arriving. There is no better place to experience this than the Rocky Mountain Arsenal because its 16,000 acres encompass many habitats. It is a popular wintering site for bald eagles, hawks are usually abundant, and songbirds are also around. Plus, there may be a bonus stop or two!

Friday, March 27 • 8 a.m.-5 p.m. • \$27 member, \$35 nonmember

Chatfield State Park

Now that construction for various improvements is complete at Chatfield, we can once again spend the day at this terrific birding locality, squeezing in as many great habitats as possible. The lake itself hosts hundreds of ducks, grebes, and other waterfowl. The deltas of Plum Creek and the South Platte River are famous for shorebirds, and American pipits are often seen working the shorelines. The prairies have raptors, the marshes have blackbirds, rails, and marsh wrens, and the woodlands have ... who knows? There could be almost anything!

Thursday, April 23 • 7 a.m.-5 p.m. • \$27 member, \$35 nonmember

Migrant Traps of the Eastern Plains

By mid-May, the songbird migration is well underway. Eastern Colorado is home to a number of “migrant traps,” oases in the high-prairie desert, usually a pond or lake surrounded by woodland. Migrating songbirds flying across the endless prairie see these hospitable-looking sites and are attracted to them like tourists to a Holiday Inn in the wasteland! Warblers, flycatchers, orioles, vireos, thrushes, and more have one thing on their minds: eating and drinking as much as they can hold to continue their migration to the nesting grounds. We will search for all of these and more.

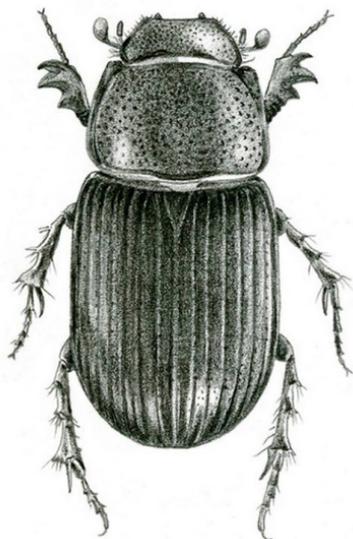
Thursday, May 21 • 7 a.m.–5 p.m. • \$27 member, \$35 nonmember

COURSES

Beetle Portraits: Form, Texture, and Iridescence

Beetles comprise the largest group of animals on Earth, and new species are discovered on a daily basis. Marjorie Leggitt, an award-winning science artist, will guide you through the process of illustrating an anatomically accurate, textural beetle in vivid color. You choose the medium, watercolor or colored pencil. This all-levels workshop begins with an overview by Dr. Frank Krell, curator of entomology. Learn about the fascinating order of Coleoptera, a beetle’s anatomy and lifecycle, and the diverse roles of beetles as tormentor or benefactor. Select a beetle to illustrate from the Museum’s vast teaching collection. Follow Leggitt as she defines the steps to producing an accurate pencil drawing and shows you how to mimic texture intricacy and develop color luminescence. You’ll end up with a beautiful beetle portrait to take home and frame. During the first session, materials will be provided by the Museum and additional materials for students to bring will be discussed.

Mondays & Wednesdays, May 4, 6, 11, 13 • 6–9 p.m. • \$225 member, \$250 nonmember



Photography for Amateur Birders

Do you enjoy watching and listening to birds in your yard or local park? Would you like to document these experiences with photographs? This course—presented by Bob Dean, a local nature, wildlife, and travel photographer—will go a long way toward achieving this goal. These sessions will cover the basics of nature and bird photography. You don’t need ultralong lenses to enjoy bird photography; just bring the camera equipment you have and learn how to get the most from it. Ages 18+.

Tuesdays, April 28–May 12 • 6:30–8:30 p.m. • Field trip:
Saturday, May 9 • \$110 member, \$140 nonmember



Introduction to Birding

Have you ever tried to identify the birds in your backyard or been curious about the popular hobby of bird watching? Let birding expert Norm Lewis help you get started with all the basics. Learn about birding optics, field guides, clothing and gear, basic bird families, and field identification techniques. Then venture into the field to test your new skills and start your very own life list. Includes a copy of *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America*.

Wednesday & Friday, May 13 & 15 • 6:30–9 p.m. • Field trip: Saturday, May 16 • \$110 member, \$140 nonmember

CANOE TRIPS

Paddle along scenic rivers while gaining new knowledge about geology, wildlife, astronomy, and dinosaurs. Reservations and information: 720.283.0553, CentennialCanoe.com

Dinosaurs by Canoe on the Colorado

Experience fascinating rock formations from the age of the dinosaurs and paddle your way along the Colorado River with geologist Dr. Bob Reynolds as your time-travel guide. Camping along the river's banks and exploring Dominguez Canyon will leave you awed by the immensity of geologic time.

Friday–Sunday, June 12–14 • \$459 adult, \$429 youth (6–12 years)

Ecosystem Interactions: Finding the Balance

Explore the interactions that occur every day in nature while canoeing the gorgeous canyons of the Gunnison River. With Museum educator and naturalist Tim Blesse, you'll deepen your understanding of ecology and critical water resource issues. K–12 teachers may receive re-licensure credits. A pretrip workshop at the Museum on Saturday, June 6, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., is available to all participants and is required for re-licensure credit. For adults, with family and friends age 16+ welcome.

Saturday–Monday, July 11–13 • \$459 adult

Geology on the Green River

Paddle along one of the longest stretches of tranquil wilderness water in the western United States, just north of Canyonlands National Park in eastern Utah. Geologist and paleobotanist Dr. Ian Miller will be your guide as you marvel at colorful sandstone walls hundreds of feet high and explore canyons and ancient rock art.

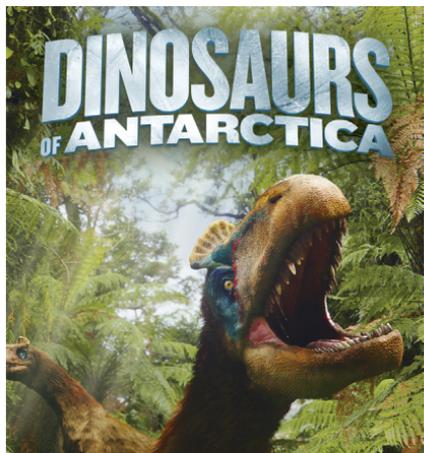
Wednesday–Sunday, July 22–26 • \$714 adult, \$681 youth (6–12 years)

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Spring into Science Family Overnight • Grades K–8 with adult

Spend a memorable night experiencing the magic of the Museum with your whole family! After a pizza dinner, check out the wonders of Colorado springtime with a dino egg hunt through the Museum, watch a planetarium show, and experiment, explore, and engage in hands-on fun for everyone. Then sleep among the animals in our renowned diorama wildlife halls. Wake up to a full breakfast and an IMAX screening.

Saturday–Sunday, March 14–15 • 6 p.m.–9 a.m. • member: \$75 adult, \$65 youth; nonmember: \$95 adult, \$85 youth



Family Fossil Fun • Grades K–8 with adult

Bring the whole family for a night of fossil themed fun! Start with dinner and then dive into some dinosaur crafts. Watch the IMAX film *Dinosaurs of Antarctica*. Families can get artistic with the Art Station: Recovery program! Draw a picture inspired by the recent fossil discovery at Corral Bluffs near Colorado Springs. See fossils from the Museum collections and enjoy a special story time in the Prehistoric Journey exhibition.

Thursday, April 30 • 6–9 p.m. • \$20 adult member, \$25 adult nonmember, \$15 junior/child member, \$20 junior/child nonmember

SCHOOL BREAK CAMPS (GRADES K–5)

Looking for something amazing for your kids to do during school breaks? At the Museum, your child will experience fun and wonder, see IMAX films and planetarium shows, and explore the marvels of our temporary exhibitions. Available for grades K & 1, 2 & 3, and 4 & 5. Limited early morning drop-off and late pickup options available.

Spring Break Science Camp • Grades K–5

March 23–27 or March 30–April 3 • 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. • \$260 member, \$290 nonmember • Early or late care, \$45/week for each



Reservations and general information: 303.370.6000, daily, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., or dmns.org

Print-at-home tickets are available at dmns.org with no handling fee. You will receive a confirmation email with further information about your event. Sales are final on all tickets unless the Museum cancels.

*Giving Club Flex Tickets may be used for complimentary admission to many temporary exhibitions, IMAX and Planetarium shows, and select lectures priced \$15 or less. Info at dmns.org/givingclub.

Please always bring your membership card and photo ID when you visit the Museum.

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SPRING INTO SAVINGS

BIRTHDAYS, MOTHER'S DAY, GRADUATIONS
THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

THE MUSEUM SHOP
LEVEL 1

MEMBERS SAVE 10% EVERY DAY!



**T-REX
CAFE**

SALAD BAR, GRILL, KIDS MEALS – LEVEL 1
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

GRAB & GO SANDWICHES, SNACKS – LEVEL 1
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

COFFEE LAB – LEVEL 2
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Proudly serving locally sourced Colorado products.



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