

# Special Exhibits

---

## **Bay Area Discovery Museum**

Sausalito (415) 289-4079 <http://www.badm.org>

### **Top Secret: Mission Toy**

January 19- May 4, 2008 --- an exhibition that invites the experts - children - to use their investigative and playtime skills to explore, examine and learn about intriguing toys from around the world. Check out dolls and balls and secret codes, find out why tops are tops, and how string can be a fascinating thing. Come and learn what it means to play in a new and different way, and discover a whole world of fun! The exhibition is aimed at children aged 5 to 12, their families and school groups.

### **Tales from the Land of Gullah**

May 17 - September 14, 2008 -- Families are immersed in the world of the Gullah people, who lived on isolated islands off the coast of Georgia and South Carolina from their days as slaves in the 18th and 19th centuries until today. Many common nursery rhymes, popular sayings and children's songs like Michael Row Your Boat Ashore come from the Gullah people. Children will participate in the daily life and rituals of a Gullah family from the 1950s before bridges and high speed boat travel united the islands with the mainland. Children will play Gullah games, learn to tell Gullah time, go fish netting with a Gullah fisherman, cook a Gullah meal, and much more as they learn about this special culture.

## **California Academy of Sciences**

San Francisco <http://www.calacademy.org>

### **Grand Re-opening in Golden Gate Park**

September 27, 2008 marks the opening of the museum in Golden Gate Park. The downtown location is now closed. Check out previews of the building and exhibits online at [http://www.calacademy.org/newacademy/academy/building/building\\_excitement.php](http://www.calacademy.org/newacademy/academy/building/building_excitement.php)

## **Chabot Space and Science Center**

Oakland (510) 336-7300 <http://www.chabotspace.org>

### **Beyond Blastoff: Surviving in Space**

Opens November 10, 2007 ---- Get a glimpse into the life of an astronaut, and experience the mixture of exhilaration, adventure, and confinement that is living and working in space. See real spacesuits, spacecraft, and astronaut food. Try out astronaut exercise gear and space tools, and picture yourself in a weightless environment. Learn how astronauts cope with the physical and mental challenges of weightlessness, isolation, and a grueling workload.

## **Exploratorium**

San Francisco (415) 561-0317 <http://www.exploratorium.edu>

### **Mind**

A NEW PERMANENT EXHIBIT -- In Mind, you are the exhibit. Experience your own thoughts and feelings in provocative and unexpected ways in this 5000-square-foot Exploratorium collection featuring over 40 brand-new interactive exhibits. Explore the tension between reason and emotion as you drink from an unusual fountain, witness yourself in off-guard moments you may never have experienced before, and much more. Made possible with support from the National Science Foundation.

## **Lawrence Hall of Science**

Berkeley (510) 642-1700 <http://www.lhs.berkeley.edu>

### **Speed**

February 9 - May 11, 2008 ---Packed with hands-on components and interactive media, SPEED draws inspiration from cutting-edge research, sport, and entertainment to investigate how we achieve speed, what going fast means, and how fast is too fast. From growing plants to jet planes to light, everything that moves has speed or rate of movement. Visitors move through SPEED in five sections each designed to showcase the physical reality of speed and to directly illuminate speed-related concepts such as acceleration, horsepower, or friction. Sections also include accounts of individuals race car drivers, pilots, designers engaged in testing the limits of speed.

GO! Build a car to find out what features enhance or retard speed. What's the math behind speed? PUSH! Take virtual downhill ski run. Build a roller coaster. How do you get speed and how do you keep it? ZOOM! Create a sonic boom. It's just one of the strange things that happens at extremely high speeds. Discover some others. DRAG! Try to move a vehicle across a slippery surface in the shortest amount of time. Spin your wheels to find out what's key about the first seconds of the race. STOP! Use a penny to investigate the consequence of rapid deceleration. Hear race car driver describe what it is like to hit a wall.

### **Engineer It!**

June 7, 2008 - January 4, 2009 - Roll up your sleeves and get involved in Engineer It! The fun is to design and build models that solve engineering challenges in three areas Wind, Water, and Structures. Create tall buildings, windmills, boats, and airplanes following the Think, Build, Test, Do It Again process used by engineers. The exhibit includes a large walk-in wind tunnel, a water tank, computer simulations, and a walk-on earthquake platform.



# Special Exhibits

---

## **Lindsay Wildlife Museum**

Walnut Creek

<http://www.wildlife-museum.org>

### **Tonic of Wildness: Paintings & Etchings by Scott Peery**

April 16, 2008 - June 15, 2008 - Scott Peery is a Bay Area native who draws inspiration for his work from the regional parks and open spaces where he hikes regularly. Peery's interest in wildlife was strongly influenced by his grandmother who had a keen interest in nature and was able to identify plants and birds where ever they went. He still thinks of his grandmother as he connects the inter-relationships of the plants and animals in his art. Acrylic paint have been his media of choice until recently he began etchings. His show includes local songbirds, owls and mammals.

### **Bringing the Condors Home**

March 19, 2008 - July 06, 2008 -- California Condors (*Gymnogyps californianus*) are the largest North American land birds and among the largest flying birds in the world. They are also one of the most endangered bird species on the planet. "Bringing the Condors Home" details Ventana Wildlife Society's role in one of the most challenging conservation efforts of all time - the struggle to restore wild and captive populations of the California condor. At the turn of the century, the California condor population began to plummet after decades of wanton shooting and poisoning. In 1967 these birds were added to the Federal Endangered Species list. In a very controversial act, the last wild condor was taken into captivity in 1987 to join 26 others in zoo and other captive breeding facilities. The long struggle to successfully breed, raise and return these birds to the wild has been working, thanks to the many participants of the Condor Recovery Program. As of December 2007, the total population of California condors was 300 birds, of which 155 are living in the wild in California, Arizona and Baja. The exhibit includes photographs documenting the birds' lives and struggles, a life-sized (ten-foot!) wingspan silhouette, a 360-degree walk-in panorama of Big Sur's condor country, videos, a sound dome and an interactive video game.

## **Oakland Museum**

Oakland

<http://www.museumca.org>

### **In Our Own Backyard: A Celebration of the East Bay Regional Parks**

March 15 - Though October 12, 2008 --In Our Own Backyard: A Celebration of the East Bay Regional Parks. Take a virtual tour of the East Bay Regional Parks, following the flow of creeks from snow-capped Mount Diablo through protected park land to the many parks along the shoreline of San Francisco Bay. More than 40 photographs from the museum's Bob Walker Archive celebrate the diversity and habitats of the parks. Other highlights include a history of the populist beginnings of the Park District, which continues today as interested citizens work to preserve open space so we all can enjoy "our backyard. Guest curated by Christopher Beaver, author of *After the Storm: Bob Walker and the East Bay Regional Park District*. (Wilderness Press, Berkeley. 2007). Though October 12, 2008. Included with museum admission.

## **SF Botanical Garden & Strybing Arboretum**

San Francisco

<http://www.strybing.org>

### **A Passion for Plants, Paintings by Catherine Watters and her Students**

April-June 2008

## **The Tech Museum of Innovation**

San Jose

<http://www.thetech.org>

### **nobel! >100 Years of the Nobel Prize**

April 3 through May 23, 2008 - Special exhibit celebrating the extraordinary people who have won the prestigious Nobel Prize. The exhibition features video interviews of the Nobel laureates, who tell their fascinating stories and reflect on their passions for their work and the spirit of creativity and innovation.

## **UC Botanical Gardens**

Berkeley

<http://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu/>

### **Bugs in the Garden**

Tuesday, April 1, 2008 - Thursday, May 15, 2008 9am - 5pm

Walk through the Garden to see a variety of original sculptures by local artist Patrick E, including antlion larvae, a dragonfly, the golden orb weaver spider *Argiope* and a scattering of ladybugs along with a special new giant insectivorous insect member of the Garden.

Free with Garden Admission

