
Special Exhibits

Need help connecting these exhibits to your grade level standards? Call CRS for planning support!

Bay Area Discovery Museum

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

Access-Abilities

January 27 - May 6, 2007 - Access-Abilities is a disability awareness exhibition that puts people first, presenting people with disabilities participating in everyday life activities and settings that are familiar to children. Modular in approach, the exhibition is organized into six areas: Going Places, Talk with Me, Just for Fun, Invent It, Think About It and the Resource Center. The exhibition raises awareness of people with disabilities, while reinforcing the idea that differences in ability are an intrinsic part of the human experience.

Joshua's Journey

May 26 - September 9, 2007 - This exhibition brings to life a Scholastic Dear American book - The Journal of Joshua Loper. The exhibition follows Joshua's adventures as he leaves home at age 16 to help drive a herd of cattle up the Chisholm Trail. By presenting firsthand experiences with roping, riding and sharing campfire stories, children learn about the hard job of trailing a herd and gain insight into the hardy young men who were cowboys. Joshua's story brings truth to the Hollywood images by showing ethnic diversity, which was rarely shown in western movies. Through stories, songs, images and objects, the exhibition allows children to begin to construct their own knowledge about cowboys in the American West in the 1870s. An additional theme is literacy as Joshua's ability to read and write helped preserve a small slice of history known as the trail drive era of the American cowboy. The literacy theme is reinforced through a handout guide for parents and caregivers, including information about contemporary young cowboy and cowgirl traditions.

California Academy of Sciences

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

Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries

September 15, 2006 - February 4, 2007. The exhibition reveals how current thinking about dinosaur biology has evolved and changed dramatically over the past two decades, and highlights ongoing cutting-edge research by Museum scientists and other leading paleontologists around the world. Dinosaurs presents the most up-to-date look at how scientists are reinterpreting many of the most persistent and puzzling mysteries of the dinosaurs—how they looked, how they behaved, how they moved—and ultimately, the complex and hotly debated theories of why they became extinct.

Children's Discovery Museum

San Jose (408) 298-5437x709 <http://www.cdm.org>

Secret of Circles (An Exhibit in Process)

Circles are pretty amazing shapes. If you look around, you'll see that they're everywhere: wheels, clocks, doorknobs, tortillas, Frisbees, tops. About half of Secrets of Circles' exhibits are now open. More exhibits are coming very soon!

Exploratorium

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

Math and the Night Sea: Undulating Wave Sculptures by Reuben Margolin

In the Seeing Gallery through February 25, 2007 The exhibition features two large-scale mechanical mobiles, The Copper Square Wave and The Round Wave, which combine the logic of mathematics with the sensuousness of nature - visually striking installations that undulate in different water-like patterns. They are made of wood, copper, and aluminum and are driven by complex overhead structures containing electric motors, cams, levers, and hundreds of pulleys. None of the installations contain digital technology, but instead their fluid motion comes from layering the effects of thousands of mechanical components. Margolin's astonishing mechanical engineering ability manipulates his materials to create sinuously moving planes.

Liminality: Art on the Threshold

Liminality: Art on the Threshold will be on display through June 3, 2007.

This exhibition builds on a rich history of boundary-bending projects that play with the Exploratorium's home, the airplane-hangar-like Palace of Fine Arts interior. It experiments with the Exploratorium's public space using the metaphor of thresholds as a unifying theme and features large-scale artworks, created by Seattle and Bay-Area artists, that create an artistic drama and a heightened awareness of the architecture within the Exploratorium. The special, one-night-only opening event and celebration includes additional artists from a variety of disciplines, who will be invited to create site-specific performances and installations that animate the Exploratorium's cavernous space for tonight only. Contributing artists include Lead Pencil Studio (a.k.a. Annie Han and Daniel Mihalyo), Erica Gangsei, Alex Clausen, Paul Andrew Hayes, and Seyed Alavi.



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Listen: Making Sense of Sound

Opens October 21, 2006--December 31, 2007 ---NEW Exhibition - Dive into the sonic soup. This major new 5000-square-foot Exploratorium exhibition features over fifty-five interactive exhibits, forty of them brand new. In the exhibition, listen as a musician does for the patterns that form the structural framework of musical composition. Or sort out the aural clues that evoke a sense of place--automatic doors and cash registers vs. teaspoons and espresso machines. Listen as a deer does when you try on alternative ears and learn the ways the shape and orientation of an animal's ears affects the sounds it hears. Or, like a snake, listen with your teeth and jawbone--turns out you don't even need ears to listen at all! Explore the physiological processes of hearing, human speech and communication, and take a host of sonic journeys. Combining exhibits, activities, demonstrations, specially commissioned artist-created listening environments, as well as public programs, this exhibition invites you to experience--as never before--the nature of sound, the ways in which humans perceive sound, and, most importantly, how you listen. There is even listening at home via the web at www.exploratorium.edu/listen starting October 19.

Junior Center of Art and Science

Oakland

<http://www.juniorcenter.org/>

African American Inventors

January 23 - March 30, 2007 - This exhibit will highlight a selection of the many contributions that African-American inventors and scientists have made to American society. The featured inventors are credited with the creation of items we see around us every day such as the traffic light, the elevator, the fountain pen, and much more. Historical and contemporary inventors will be represented.

Animals All Around Us

April 24 - June 9, 2007 --School tours A Junior Center naturalist will introduce young scientists to a variety of local and exotic wildlife. Students will learn about the animals found in their own backyard and then broaden their study to include the hills, woodland areas, and ocean and lake shores. Students will illustrate what they have learned during a guided drawing lesson which will feature one of the habitats and many of the animals highlighted during the tour.

Lawrence Hall of Science

Berkeley

<http://www.lhs.berkeley.edu>

CIRCUS! Science Under the Big Top.

February 3 - September 2, 2007 - CIRCUS! SCIENCE UNDER THE BIG TOP Pull back the curtain, step right up, and learn the science and math behind thrilling circus spectacles.

How do circus acrobats spin through the air high above the crowd?

How do humans balance on a tightrope?

How can a contortionist squeeze into tiny spaces (the art of "packanatomicalization")?

How do humans perform amazing feats of strength?

How can a human cannonball survive?

How do sword swallowers avoid injury?

Oakland Museum

Oakland

(510) 238-3514

<http://www.museumca.org>

Bringing the Condors Home

December 16, 2006 - April 17, 2007 - A visually compelling presentation of the Ventana Wildlife Society's 20-year effort to restore California condors to the wild. The exhibition interprets condor biology, behavior, and life history, as well as conservation issues threatening the survival of the species and research efforts in captive breeding, release, and monitoring.

The Edge: Where California Culture, Critters...Environment

June 2 - October 7 - This interdisciplinary exhibition—co-organized by the art, history, and natural sciences departments—explores the ever-changing boundaries between Californians and the natural environment. Through the juxtaposition and analysis of artwork, natural specimens, historical artifacts, and media, the exhibition offers different viewpoints in its examination of the continually shifting power dynamics between Californians, "critters," and the environment. Through October 7, 2007. Included with museum admission.

Randall Museum

San Francisco

(415) 554-9604

<http://www.randallmuseum.org/>

Journey Into the Hive

closes May 2007 - Learn about the history, mystery, science and lore of the honeybee and why this insect is so important to all of us. Welcome to the honeybee hive! Travel through our giant skep (Don't know what a skep is? Come find out!) into the inner world of the honeybee. Greet the Queen and begin the tasks that keep the hive buzzing. You'll be busy as a bee!

