

Press Release

Our Body: The Universe Within Premieres November 2006 at the Orlando Science Center Exhibit featuring authentic human bodies shines a light on the alluring mystery of our anatomy

ORLANDO, FL – (August 15, 2006) – The Orlando Science Center (OSC) will soon host an eye-opening and educational exhibit comprised of authentic human bodies and organs that have been preserved to expose the inner workings of human anatomy. Premiering at OSC in November 2006, *Our Body: The Universe Within*, will include approximately 20 bodies and over 200 other anatomical displays as well as reproductions of anatomical artwork through the ages. The exhibit will be on display through Spring 2007.

According to OSC's President and CEO Dr. Brian Tonner, the Science Center has received numerous inquiries from the public—teachers, parents, members and business associates—asking when OSC would bring an exhibit on human bodies here to Orlando. As a result, the Science Center has been researching the impact that human body exhibits have made over the past year and found that the response from communities across the United States has been overwhelmingly positive.

"Our vision for this project was to bring a new and important exhibit to Orlando that deals with the unique beauty and incredible complexity of the human body," Tonner said. "After an extensive search, we have selected one that has a strong educational and scientific foundation and we are certain that it will be one of the most talked-about exhibitions ever to come to our city. This exhibit has the potential to have a multi-million dollar impact on the Orlando economy by offering tourists and residents a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Our Body: The Universe Within shines a light on the alluring mystery of the human body through the presentation of these fascinating specimens combined with an inspirational and educational message. This exhibit literally as well as figuratively goes "under the skin," exposing the intricacy of the human body and allowing the general public a look at what normally only doctors and scientists are allowed to see first-hand. The exhibit will showcase specimens preserved through a polymer impregnation process that replaces fluids with polymers that prevent decay and decomposition.

The goal of *Our Body: The Universe Within* is for visitors to leave with a deeper understanding of the body's form and function and a stronger appreciation of the uniqueness of each of our individual bodies. The exhibit vividly transmits knowledge about the human organism displaying the specimens in an artful, compelling and dignified environment. Guests will connect on a personal level with these human artifacts as they use them to better understand their own bodies.

The Orlando installation of *Our Body: The Universe Within* will feature an educational component and storyline created in cooperation with OSC. "Nothing is more personal than our bodies," Tonner said. "By using that common ground, we can draw the audience in to explore how man has struggled for more than 1,000 years to discover the truth about the human body."

The exhibit will also be used to explore how the study of the body has evolved. These specimens will serve as an engaging resource that vibrantly illustrates how far mankind has come since Galen drew anatomical sketches in the 2nd Century A.D. with comparisons to dog anatomy since that's all he had to study. When *Our Body: The Universe Within* arrives at OSC, it will serve as a

way of illuminating the unique journey mankind has undertaken to truly discover what lies underneath.

“The knowledge acquired through studying the human anatomy has been directly responsible for extending life expectancy and improving quality of life,” Tonner said. “This exhibit is the next step in a process that can help people better comprehend the amazing wonder of their own bodies.” Our Body: The Universe Within is produced by the Universe Within Touring Company, LLC. For additional information, people can contact OSC at 407.514.2107 or visit www.osc.org. Tickets will go on sale soon both at the OSC box office and through the website.