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Jan. 28, 2009

Media Web site: <http://newsdesk.si.edu>

Public Web site: www.mnh.si.edu/calendar

Calendar Listing

WHAT: National Museum of Natural History's public programs in February

WHEN: Various dates, Feb. 2009

WHERE: Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History
10th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Black History Month Celebrated in African Voices Exhibition (weekdays, Feb. 4 – 13 and 24 – 27; Saturdays, Feb. 14 and 28; Sundays, Feb. 8 and 22) *First floor*
Docent-led activity carts in the African Voices exhibition encourage hands-on exploration of the continent.

“Written in Bone” Illustrated Lecture, Book-Signing (Feb. 7, noon – 3 p.m.) *Baird Auditorium, Ground floor*

Illustrated lecture by “Written in Bone” exhibition co-curators and forensic anthropologists Douglas Owsley and Kari Bruwelheide, 1 – 2 p.m. Book signing for “Written in Bone: Bone Biographer’s Casebook” companion book by authors Douglas Owsley, Kari Bruwelheide, Katherine Meyers and Miriam Rothstein, noon – 1p.m. and 2 – 3 p.m. Book signing for “Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland” children’s book by author Sally M. Walker, noon – 3 p.m.

Presidents' Day Extended Museum Hours (Feb. 13 – 15; 10 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.) In celebration of Presidents' Day the museum will extend its hours to 7:30 p.m.

Arts and Science: Butterfly Birthday Celebration (Feb. 14; 1 – 4 p.m.) *Ground floor and Second floor*
Feel the flutter! Celebrate the one-year anniversary of the exhibition “Butterflies + Plants: Partners in Evolution” with special arts and crafts activities for children and families. Meet museum educators and learn about metamorphosis, native butterfly species of the region and how to create a butterfly garden.

Orchid Family Festival (Feb. 28; 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) *Ground floor and First floor*
To coincide with the exhibition “Orchids through Darwin's Eyes,” the Smithsonian's Horticulture Services Division and the U.S. Botanic Garden present a hint of spring in the dead of winter. Talk with orchid specialists and watch potting demonstrations. For younger enthusiasts there will be orchids to pot and take home, lessons on pollination and temporary orchid tattoos.