

THE EXHIBIT

The Newsletter of UL Lafayette Science Museum



Letter from the Director

DR. JENNIFER E. HARGRAVE, UL LAFAYETTE SCHOOL OF GEOSCIENCES



Greetings! It's been quite a busy spring for us. We've been hosting outreach events, teaching UL classes at the museum, and hosting field trips – nearly 500 children visited us last week! We are also preparing to open two new exhibits this month. Beginning this week, stage 1 of “Prehistoric Louisiana: A Journey through Ice Age Acadiana” is now open. Created by students in my GEOL 422: Museum Methods class, it includes fossil animals discovered in Acadiana. On May 18, we will reveal a new exhibit “Highlighting African American Scientists from Louisiana,” the stories of 10

local scientists. Many of the scientists will share their stories at the opening. I hope to see you there.

We are also ramping up for another exciting “Summer of Science,” and we have lots of plans to keep you busy this summer. Consider purchasing a museum membership this summer. It's the perfect time to make the most of you membership and participate in all of our great programming.

We are so thankful for the support we get from the community. There are several ways you can help. Be sure to read about our new volunteer program and sign up if you're interested. Businesses and individuals can play a pivotal role in the museum and its mission with financial support or in-kind donations. For more information about these opportunities, please contact me by [email](#) or call 337-482-0678.

Best wishes,

Dr. Jennifer Hargrave, Museum Director

Museum Spotlight: The Making of an Exhibit

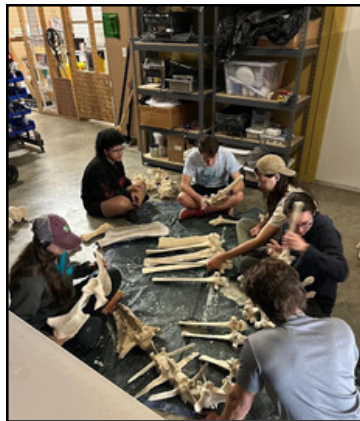
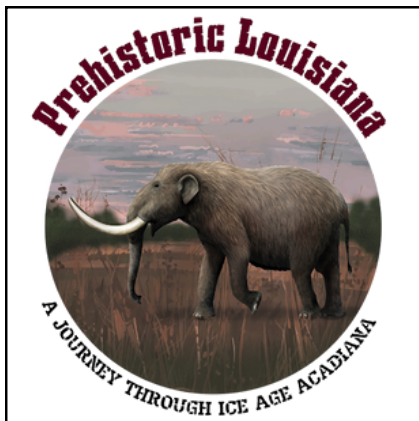
PREHISTORIC LOUISIANA: A JOURNEY THROUGH ICE AGE ACADIANA

The museum is set to open a new fossil exhibit, “Prehistoric Louisiana: A Journey through Ice Age Acadiana.” A lot of time, effort, and support has gone into this exhibit. First, the students in Dr. Hargrave’s GEOL 422 Museum Methods class have been working hard on developing the overall idea of the new fossil exhibit. They received hands-on experiences prepping fossil casts for display, putting together skeletons, and even writing the text you see on the signage.

A wonderful group of museum volunteers also helped with the skeleton prep and display. They worked tirelessly for weeks to prepare the skeletons for display, setting up cases, and other associated tasks. They even supplied snacks and desserts most days! Our newest volunteer to the group created the mural you see in the exhibit. Her talents are unmatched. Be on the lookout for a display showing how the mural was created.

Our final push to get the giant skeletons together and in place came from the UL Ragin Cajuns baseball team. They spent an afternoon at the museum moving and setting up the mammoth skeleton, as well as a few more items. They knocked it out of the park!

The success of the exhibit is owed to several sponsors, including Dr. James E. Martin, Silverstone Resources Inc., and the John E. and Elizabeth W. Bishop Trust. Their generosity expresses how supporting the museum can benefit the enjoyment and engagement of the community. Special thanks to these generous sponsors.





Support the Museum for UL Giving Day

CELEBRATE UL GIVING DAY & SECURE THE FUTURE SUCCESS OF UL LAFAYETTE SCIENCE MUSEUM

UL Lafayette Science Museum is participating in UL's annual Giving Day on May 9, 2024. It's a great way to show your Cajun pride and support what matters most to you. The Giving Day site is live now, so donate anytime leading up to the big day to show your support.

The Lafayette Science Museum relies on the support of members, donors, corporate sponsors and partners, and volunteers to sustain our mission to provide informative and interactive experiences in STEM fields to the community, K-12 students, and University students, provide innovative research opportunities, and preserve current and future museum collections for use in exhibits, classrooms, and scientific research. Your donation helps to support our educational mission and outreach efforts as well as the creation of new exhibits. Thank you for your generosity and support of science education. Please consider participating in this event and making a donation of any size to the museum. [Click here to give support to UL Lafayette Science Museum.](#)

UL Giving Day invites alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students and supporters to come together and advance opportunities and secure the University's future success. Contribute to what matters most to you. Celebrate 125 years of progress within our University and community by contributing to the next 125! Remember to share your University pride on social media using #RaginCajunsGive! Learn more about UL Giving Day 2024 at givingday.louisiana.edu.





Documentary Date Night

SCIENCE FILMS IN THE MUSEUM

Through a generous sponsorship by Aqueos, we are able to continue Documentary Date Night! At this fun event, we'll show a documentary film in the museum. Bring a date, bring a friend or just yourself for an evening at the museum. Attendance for the educational film screening is free and will be followed by a discussion.

On Thursday, May 30 at 7pm, we will screen the documentary "Becoming Cousteau," the story of adventurer, filmmaker, inventor, author, unlikely celebrity and conservationist, Jacques Cousteau. For more than 4 decades, his explorations under the ocean became synonymous with a love of science and the natural world. As he learned to protect the environment, he brought the whole world along. The film is an inside look at Cousteau and his life, his iconic films and inventions and what made him the most unique and renowned environmental voice and the man who inspired generations to protect the Earth.

The film screening is free, donations are accepted and concessions will be for sale (cash only) at the event. Doors open at 6:30pm and the film starts at 7pm.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

STEM SATURDAY - MAY 18

**NEW EXHIBIT OPENING:
AFRICAN-AMERICAN
SCIENTISTS FROM
LOUISIANA - MAY 18**

**ENDANGERED SPECIES
DAY - MAY 18**

**SENSORY DAY W/AUTISM
SOCIETY OF ACADIANA -
MAY 26**

**DOCUMENTARY DATE
NIGHT: BECOMING
COUSTEAU - MAY 30**

**STEM SATURDAY:
FOSSILS - JUNE 8**

A white calendar icon with a grid of dates, set against a blue circular background with a drop shadow.

In the Planetarium

MAY SCHEDULE

The universe awaits in our state-of-the-art, all-digital, full-dome planetarium! For the general public, we offer a weekday planetarium show Friday at 4 p.m. and weekend shows beginning with a Saturday morning children's program at 11:15 a.m. Public programs continue Saturday and Sunday at 1:30, 2:45 and 4 p.m. Other weekday timeslots are reserved for planetarium shows for field trip groups.

MAY	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
11:15 a.m.		Earth, Moon & Sun	
1:30 p.m.		Stars	Stars
2:45 p.m.		Dawn of the Space Age	Dawn of the Space Age
4:00 p.m.	The Sky Tonight	2 Small Pieces of Glass	2 Small Pieces of Glass

**As we work to grow our planetarium team, our live planetarium show "The Sky Tonight" or an alternate special children's program will be shown based on staff availability.*

STEM Saturday: New Exhibit Opening

HIGHLIGHTING AFRICAN AMERICAN SCIENTISTS FROM LOUISIANA

Join us Sat., May 18 for a special STEM Saturday as we open a new exhibit: Highlighting African American Scientists from Louisiana. The exhibit will feature the stories of 10 scientists from Acadiana. Many of the scientists will be at the museum to share their stories and meet and greet visitors. Learn about their interests, motivations, as well as their educational and career experiences. The event will run from 10:30 am until about 1:30 pm.

STEM Saturdays are made possible through a grant from Halliburton and offer extra hands-on, educational activities related to a science topic. Extra activities are included with regular museum admission.

Sensory Day with Autism Society of Acadiana

UL Lafayette Science Museum will host sensory-friendly hours for visitors with special sensory needs on Sunday, May 26 from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. when the museum opens to the general public.

Families with children with special sensory needs are invited to visit the museum to explore the exhibits and planetarium during these dedicated hours and are welcome to stay for as long as they wish once the museum opens to the public at 1 p.m.

Visit www.acadianautism.com for more information.





Endangered Species Day on May 18

LEARN ABOUT CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION EFFORTS FOR LOUISIANA WILDLIFE

Join us Saturday, May 18, 2024, from 1 pm to 4 pm at UL Lafayette Science Museum for a celebration Endangered Species Day and Louisiana success stories.

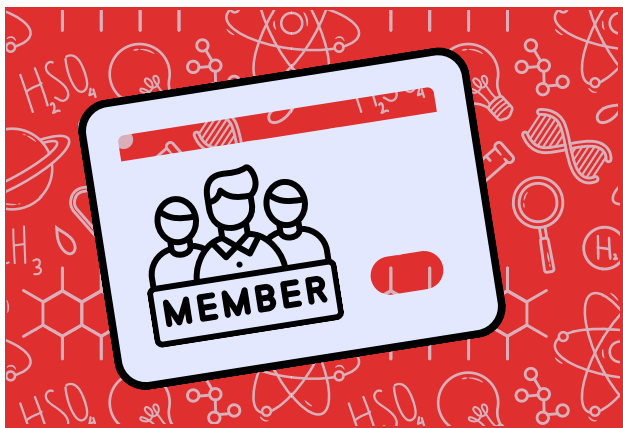
Representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act will present interactive, educational activities about Louisiana wildlife.

From the Louisiana black bear to the whooping crane, learn about conservation efforts and monitoring programs that have brought back species that were once endangered. Find out information about protected, threatened and endangered species in our state. You might even meet a real live Louisiana pine snake, a gopher tortoise and more!

Join us for a fun-filled day all about wildlife and conservation efforts to preserve species such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, the Louisiana black bear, whooping cranes, manatees, gopher tortoise and pine snakes and more.

Enacted in 1973, the Endangered Species Act establishes protections for fish, wildlife and plants listed as threatened or endangered and plans for their recovery.





Become a Member



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA
AT
LAFAYETTE
SCIENCE
MUSEUM

A UNIVERSITY AND LCG PARTNERSHIP

The Ultimate Membership for Summer!

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY & VISIT US ALL SUMMER LONG

Our membership options at general and premium levels support our educational mission, outreach efforts and the creation of new exhibits. Visit anytime with your membership and never miss an exhibit, planetarium show or event. Memberships are valid for 12 months from the purchase date and count as charitable gifts for tax purposes.

CORE BENEFITS FOR ALL GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Unlimited free visits to museum & planetarium;
- Receive our e-newsletter *The Exhibit*;
- Invitations to member-only previews & events;
- Free admission to over 360 museums and science centers worldwide through the ASTC Travel Passport Program
- Museum Store Discount (varies by level); &
- Discounts on camps, classes, & some events.

INDIVIDUAL \$65 - 1 adult, core benefits + 10% store discount.

DUAL \$100 - 2 adults, core benefits + 10% store discount.

FAMILY \$125 - 2 named adults + your children or grandchildren (age 17 & younger), core benefits + 10% store discount.

SUPPORTING \$275 - Family benefits + a VIP Gallery Tour of special exhibitions upon request.

*Additional Adult \$45 - Add to any membership level.

*Current UL Student, Faculty, Staff - 10% off any level.

PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

These membership levels provide crucial support for all Museum activities. Members in this distinguished group enjoy exclusive privileges and opportunities in addition to the Core Member Benefits.

CURIOSITY LEVEL \$500

Family Membership with Core Benefits plus:

- Four one-day passes to share;
- 15% Museum Store discount;
- Sponsors membership for one local family.

INQUIRY LEVEL \$1,000

Family Membership with Core Benefits plus:

- Six one-day passes to share;
- 15% Museum Store discount;
- Invitations for a behind-the-scenes experience;
- Sponsors membership for 3 local families.

EXPLORATORY LEVEL \$2,500

Family Membership with Core Benefits plus:

- 10 one-day passes to share;
- 20% Museum Store discount;
- Invitations for a behind-the-scenes experience;
- Sponsors membership for 5 local families.

DISCOVERY LEVEL \$5,000

Family Membership with Core Benefits plus:

- 12 one-day passes to share;
- 20% Museum Store discount;
- Invitations for a behind-the-scenes experience;
- Sponsors membership for 7 local families.



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA
— AT —
**LAFAYETTE
SCIENCE
MUSEUM**

A UNIVERSITY AND LCG PARTNERSHIP

Volunteer at UL Lafayette Science Museum!

SUPPORT THE MUSEUM'S MISSION THROUGH OUR DOCENT PROGRAM

A great way to give back and support UL Lafayette Science Museum is through our volunteer docent program. Help us fulfill our mission of providing educational science experiences for visitors of all ages.

As a volunteer docent, you will have the opportunity to learn about our exhibits and interact with museum visitors and field trip students, answering questions and giving directions to help visitors make the most of their time at museum. Volunteers also will have opportunities to help lead activities for school groups and during our STEM Saturdays program.

Sign up today and be part of our next Volunteer Docent Training session. Complete the form below and we will contact you with more information and training dates.

To sign up as a museum volunteer, complete our [Volunteer Form](#). Contact us with questions by calling the museum at 337-291-5544 or visit lafayettesciencemuseum.org.



Curiosity Corner

Word Find: Ice Age Mammals

Find the animals & items from our new exhibit
Prehistoric Louisiana: A Journey through Ice Age Acadiana



Bison
Horse
Ice Age
Jaguar
Mammoth

Mastodon
Sabertooth
Sloth
Tapir
Tusks