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Award-Winning Wildlife Photographer Stephen Kirkpatrick to Sign First Children's Book

Plus, examine snakes, bats and spiders at, "Slither, Crawl & Fly"

Jackson, Miss. – The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science will offer two exciting events at the Museum on October 25, 2008. Both events are included with regular Museum admission.

- **"Slither, Crawl & Fly":** From 10:00 a.m. – noon, visitors can join Museum staff to learn about creatures such as snakes, spiders and bats that slither, crawl and fly! They're not as scary as you might think. Touch a snake, examine a bat specimen, observe a spider, and understand the beneficial role they play in the ecosystem. "Come discover the facts and myths about these mysterious and often misunderstood creatures," invites museum director Libby Hartfield.
- **Book Signing and Presentation:** At 1:00 p.m., award-winning wildlife photographer Stephen Kirkpatrick will showcase his first children's book, *Among the Animals: Mississippi*. Kirkpatrick invites young explorers to go on a grand adventure through the forests, fields, swamps, and waterways of Mississippi and discover the sometimes hidden world of the animals that live all around us. The 44-page book is geared toward children ages four to eight years old and features 60 vibrant photographs that give young readers an intimate look at mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and insects in their natural habitats. Young readers will come face-to-face with playful otters, wild hogs, and fearsome barracuda, and share quiet moments with butterflies, rabbits, and turtles. They'll enter the secret world of insects, swim with tropical fish, and soar above the treetops with songbirds. The text for the book was written by Marlo Carter Kirkpatrick, Stephen Kirkpatrick's wife and an award-winning author. The storyline challenges young readers to leave the everyday world and explore the wilderness. For more information about Stephen Kirkpatrick, visit www.kirkpatrickwildlife.com.

The museum is located at 2148 Riverside Drive in Jackson. Call 601.354.7303 or visit www.msnaturalscience.org for details. The Museum is part of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

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