



CONTACT: Dee Gardner; 601-896-3884
deegardner@comcast.net
DATE: March 31, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Museum to Host 10th Annual NatureFEST! on Saturday, April 10, 2010

Meet bats from around the world and learn about their habitats with bat expert Rob Mies

Jackson, Miss. – Now in its tenth year, [“NatureFEST!”](#) will get visitors of all ages into the swing of spring on Saturday, April 10, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science. It’s a family festival, a nature outing and a fascinating trip to the Museum, all wrapped into one exciting day! There is no fee, other than regular Museum admission, to attend the event.

- Step into the mysterious world of bats and explore their benefits, habitats, and nocturnal strategies with bat expert [Rob Mies](#) (pictured above). Meet a local bat from North America and hear its high-pitched sound with a “bat detector.” Meet a Straw-colored fruit bat from Africa, an Asian dog-faced bat and the largest bat in the world with nearly a 6-foot wingspan, the Gigantic Flying Fox Bat from Malaysia.
- Meet the “Snake Man”, Terry Vandeventer. Experience birds of prey demonstrations. Watch divers feed the fish in the giant Museum aquariums. Dig for fossils and get your face painted.
- Go behind the scenes with our scientists and researchers to learn about their unique research tools. Discover how valuable specimens in the Museum Collections are acquired and maintained.
- Explore the [“Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl: Home Sweet Home” exhibit](#) with Smokey Bear.
- Inhale spring’s sweet aromas and take guided tours of our nature trails and Native Plant Garden. Catch the native plant sale and take home something green.

NatureFEST! 2010 is sponsored in part by Merrill Lynch.

Also in April – [The Blues Rangers: Singing About Longleaf: April 6th from Noon – 1 pm.](#)

[Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival On Tour: April 9th and 11th.](#)

The museum is located at 2148 Riverside Drive in Jackson. Call 601.354.7303 or visit <http://msnaturalscience.org> for details about this event and other programs offered by the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, which is a part of the [Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks](#). The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Museum Hours: Monday - Friday: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm; Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sunday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. **Admission:** \$5 adults; \$3 children ages 3-18; \$4 senior citizens (60+); free for children under 3; free for Museum Members; school teachers with classes: call for group information.

###