

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE FAMED AUSROX GOLD NUGGET – REGARDED AS THE THIRD-LARGEST IN EXISTENCE – RETURNS TO PEROT MUSEUM**

*Three prospectors in Australia uncovered this “rock star” treasure in 2010 using a metal detector*

**DALLAS (Sept. 25, 2017)** – It’s back!! One of the world’s most famous gold nuggets has returned to the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas, Texas. The Ausrox Gold Nugget, a true rock star in the gem and mineral world, was on loan as part of the original collection that debuted in the *Lyda Hill Gems and Minerals Hall* when the Museum opened to the public in December 2012. In 2015, the precious mineral headed south to the Houston Museum of Natural Science but is now back in all its glittering glory.

Incredibly, this treasure, found in the Eastern Goldfield of Australia, was discovered by three prospectors using a hand-held metal detector.

“This is the remarkable story of three miners who, back in 2010, were in the wilderness of Australia armed with just a metal detector and a small tractor. Imagine their shock coming upon a piece of gold about the size of a basketball and weighing over 50 pounds – and then later learning that it was among the largest in the world,” said a spokesperson for The Pinnacle Collection, which owns the nugget. “This discovery is a terrific illustration of the important scientific contributions made by amateur collectors and every day citizens. We are thrilled to share this remarkable specimen with guests at the Perot Museum.”

Tipping the scales at 23.27 kilos or 51.29 pounds, the Ausrox Nugget is regarded as the third-largest gold nugget still in existence. While the bullion value of the nugget is already substantial, the size and rarity of the Ausrox Nugget combine to make its worth invaluable in the collector market.

“From the days of the ancient Egyptians and the California gold rush, to our modern-day financial markets, gold has retained its value, power, beauty and mystique,” said Dr. Linda Abraham-Silver, the Eugene McDermott Chief Executive Officer of the Perot Museum. “We’re delighted to welcome the Ausrox back to Dallas and encourage everyone to experience this rare and priceless specimen.”

**TICKETS.** Museum general admission is \$20 for adults (18-64), \$13 for youth (2-17) and \$14 for seniors (65+). Museum general admission is free for members. Children under 2 are always free. For a limited time, reserve your general admission tickets online and save \$2 per person. For groups of 10 or more, call for special rates at 214-428-5555 ext. 8. All prices are subject to change.

**The Perot Museum is located at 2201 N. Field Street in Dallas, Texas. For parking information and other details, visit [perotmuseum.org](http://perotmuseum.org) or call 214-428-5555.**

*NOTE: To obtain the news release and photos, please go to [perotmuseum.org/press](http://perotmuseum.org/press).*

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**About the Perot Museum of Nature and Science.** *The top cultural attraction in Dallas/Fort Worth and a Michelin Green Guide three-star destination, the Perot Museum of Nature and Science is a nonprofit educational organization located in the heart of Dallas, Texas, with campuses in Victory Park and Fair Park. With a mission to inspire minds through nature and science, the Perot Museum delivers exciting, engaging and innovative visitor and outreach experiences through its education, exhibition, and research*

*and collections programming for children, students, teachers, families and life-long learners. The 180,000-square-foot facility in Victory Park opened in December 2012 and is now recognized as the symbolic gateway to the Dallas Arts District. Future scientists, mathematicians and engineers will find inspiration and enlightenment through 11 permanent exhibit halls on five floors of public space; a children's museum; a state-of-the art traveling exhibition hall; and The Hogle Foundation Theater, a National Geographic Experience. Designed by 2005 Pritzker Architecture Prize Laureate Thom Mayne and his firm Morphosis Architects, the Victory Park museum has been lauded for its artistry and sustainability. To learn more, please visit [perotmuseum.org](http://perotmuseum.org)*

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