



Museum of Nature and Science

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PEROT MUSEUM ANNOUNCES PLANS TO REOPEN THURSDAY, JULY 9,
WITH NEW PUBLIC-HEALTH PROTOCOLS AND TICKETING PROCEDURES IN PLACE**

Tickets to go on sale July 1 at perotmuseum.org

DALLAS (June 18, 2020) – With the safety of guests, staff and volunteers a top priority, the Perot Museum of Nature and Science will reopen its doors Thursday, July 9, with new public-health protocols and ticketing procedures in place. To ensure the best experience during preferred times and to manage capacity, guests are strongly encouraged to purchase timed-entry tickets online and in advance at perotmuseum.org. Tickets will go on sale July 1.

In accordance with state and local regulations, some areas of the Museum will be temporarily closed, including the *Moody Family Children's Museum* along with a number of interactive activities. Note: Closures will be regularly reevaluated based on the lifting or reinstatement of CDC, state and local guidelines, so please check the website for the latest information.

As part of general admission, guests will have an opportunity to view *Origins: Fossils from the Cradle of Humankind*. *Origins* explores two extremely rare ancient human relatives – *Australopithecus sediba* and *Homo naledi* – named by *National Geographic* and *Smithsonian Magazine* as top discoveries of the last decade. While the original fossils were removed during the museum's closure for preservation and safekeeping, identical, 3-D replica casts have been created in their place.

"We are excited to reopen the Perot Museum but want guests to understand their experience may be somewhat modified, due to the state guidelines," said Dr. Linda Silver, Eugene McDermott Chief Executive Officer. "While a few areas and exhibits aren't currently available, rest assured there are five floors overflowing with a variety of opportunities for discovery, including the *Origins* exhibition at no additional cost."

The following procedures may evolve as state and local entities lift or reinstate occupancy and other guidelines so please check the website for updates.

- **TICKETING.** The Museum will use timed entry for guests to accommodate the state-mandated requirements regarding occupancy. Guests are strongly encouraged to purchase advance online tickets, which will guarantee their entry time and allow them easy access using the self-scanning entrance. Guests must arrive within an hour of their designated times. Only groups of 10 or less will be allowed to purchase tickets.
- **CONTACTLESS ENTRY.** The Museum has established contactless ticket/phone scanners along with specific pathways for entering and exiting the building and the lobby. Physically abled guests will be directed to take escalators and stairs, since state guidelines limit the number of guests (including those with strollers) on elevators.
- **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.** Guests should not visit the Museum if sick. Guests ages 3 and older will be required to wear masks or some form of covering over their nose and mouth. Social distancing of at least 6 feet (or the average length of one velociraptor!) will be reinforced through abundant signage and staff encouragement (does not apply to families or groups that come together).
- Regular hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer is recommended. Restrooms have been modified with hands-free door devices and plentiful paper towels. (Hand dryers will be disabled.)

- **SAFETY MEASURES.** Hand-sanitizing stations have tripled and will be easily accessible at key points in the Museum. Digital and onsite signage will replace printed brochures. Highly visible, professional cleaning teams will use medical-grade Clorox 360 materials to disinfect exhibit halls, main spaces and restrooms throughout the day.
- **EMPLOYEE/VOLUNTEER/VENDOR SAFETY.** All employees, volunteers and vendors will be required to wear face masks and have daily temperature checks upon entering the building. Prior to reopening, staff and volunteers will undergo extensive training regarding safety, public health and operational measures.

MEMBERS. Museum members will have special pre-opening access from July 6-8, along with member-only hours Saturdays 9-10 a.m. and Sundays 10-11 a.m. All currently active memberships have been extended for the four months that the Museum was closed. Membership starts at \$95 for two adults and \$130 for a family (with children 2-17).

HOURS. General hours of operation for the Perot Museum are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Member-only hours will be offered Saturdays 9-10 a.m. and Sundays 10-11 a.m.

TICKETS. Beginning July 1, timed-entry tickets may be purchased online and in advance at perotmuseum.org. While online ticket purchase is strongly recommended, a limited number of tickets will be sold on site, based on availability. Guests can purchase tickets on site through limited self-service digital options, and a concierge will be available for special circumstances. NOTE: Tickets purchased on site may sell out or entry time might be delayed, and guests will be required to wait outdoors until their entry time.

Museum general admission, which includes complimentary entry into *Origins: Fossils from the Cradle of Humankind*, is \$20 for adults (13-64), \$13 for youth (2-12) and \$18 for seniors (65+). Museum general admission is free for members. Children under 2 are always free.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM/DISCOUNTS. The Community Partners program provides \$1 general admission to families enrolled in state or federally funded supplemental programs. Eligible military, first responders and educators also receive free admission. Additionally, free admission is available to members of partner museums, including the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History and the McKinney Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary. For discount details, learn more at perotmuseum.org.

The Perot Museum is located at 2201 N. Field Street in Dallas, Texas. For parking information and other details, visit perotmuseum.org or call 214-428-5555.

NOTE: To obtain the news release, Perot Museum fact sheet, photos and more, please go to 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 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. 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*

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