



Never stop wondering.
Never stop imagining.™



Media Contact: Brian O'Malley, Gordon C James Public Relations, bomalley@gcjpr.com, 480.703.8338

WORLD'S LARGEST TOURING TYRANNOSAURUS REX, VICTORIA, TO MAKE DEBUT AT ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER

Guests to November 17 world premiere exhibition will have first look at T. rex skeleton

PHOENIX (Sept. 12, 2019) – Victoria, the largest *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton touring the world, is making her global debut at Arizona Science Center with a special exhibition that opens to the public on November 17. This world premiere exhibition will transport guests to a time when dinosaurs roamed the earth, bringing to life one of the most important discoveries in the history of paleontology and giving museum visitors the rare opportunity to visit the Cretaceous period where Victoria's story will unfold in her natural habitat.

Victoria the T. rex was officially announced to the scientific community today as the second most complete *T. rex* skeleton on record. Initially unearthed outside Faith, South Dakota, in 2013, Victoria has undergone years of meticulous research and restoration in order to earn this claim. Victoria's completeness and unique pathologies have provided paleontologists with a wealth of insights into the species that will be studied for years to come.

Embarking on a five-year tour across the world, this immersive exhibition produced by IMG was developed in partnership with a dedicated group of research collaborators and paleontologists. *Victoria the T. rex* explores and builds upon the latest discoveries about the species – from their hunting and mating rituals to their sounds and appearance.

"This is one of the most significant paleontological discoveries in decades and to have the exhibit premiere at Arizona Science Center is a privilege for our organization, our members, and our community," says Chevy Humphrey, The Hazel A. Hare president & CEO of Arizona Science Center. "The exhibition flawlessly combines science and storytelling while offering an unprecedented look into Victoria's story and life 66 million years ago."

The exhibition is open to visitors of all ages and explores every facet of Victoria's life and death, including the unusual battle scars that may have led to her death, and her role as a mother. With Victoria's striking, pristinely maintained skeleton as a focal feature, the exhibition uses stunning animations and immersive digital environments and merges them with the latest paleontological findings to create an educational, emotional experience unlike any other.

Come face-to-face with an awe-inspiring dinosaur in the most engaging *T. rex* exhibition ever to tour the globe. This dramatically staged experience gives visitors an unprecedented look at the life and death of Victoria. At the exhibition, visitors will:

- **Meet Victoria:** The centerpiece is Victoria's real, 66-million-year old skeleton. Through state-of-the-art technologies visitors can take an in-depth look at Victoria's unique features and pathologies
- **Create Victoria:** Visitors can create their very own personalized hologram of Victoria. Create a scientifically accurate version (or one that's just for fun!) and watch her come to life on the big screen.
- **Become Victoria:** How did Victoria live? How did her sense of vision and smell compare to ours? What did she sound like? Through a series of interactive installations, visitors can get a sense of how Victoria experienced the world.
- **Watch Victoria:** Using 3D projection mapping technology, visitors will see Victoria in her natural environment in scenes that portray her as a mother, hunter and protector.
- **Experience Victoria:** Step into Victoria's world, 66 million years ago. This breathtaking journey takes visitors back to the Cretaceous period as they watch Victoria's story unfold in her natural habitat.

"The *T. rex* is the most iconic dinosaur known to man and the focal point of countless books, television shows, and films. The discovery of Victoria is truly remarkable and really changes our understanding of the species." says John Norman, managing director, IMG Exhibitions. "Through *Victoria the T. rex*, we're providing visitors with an in-depth look at the life of the *Tyrannosaurus rex* and expanding upon existing knowledge to create the most exciting, engaging, and holistic dinosaur exhibition to date."

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit azscience.org/victoria.

TICKET INFORMATION

Guests who purchase tickets to the Nov. 16 World Premiere Party will have the first opportunity to meet Victoria and experience *Victoria the T. rex*.

Victoria the T. rex requires a timed-entry ticket. Advance purchase is highly recommended. Members can purchase tickets online at azscience.org/victoria beginning September 12. Ticket sales open to the public on September 19.

Victoria the T. rex tickets are \$9.95 for Members (adults and children ages 3 to 17) and \$11.95 for Non-Members (adults and children). Children age two and younger are always free. General admission is required for non-members. General admission ticket prices are \$18 for adults and \$13 for children when purchased online, and \$19.95 for adults and \$14.95 for children when purchased in-house.

Groups of 15 guests or more save with a special exhibition rate of \$7 for adults and children (ages three to 17). Group general admission rates are \$8 for adults and \$7 for children.

ABOUT VICTORIA THE T. REX

Victoria the *Tyrannosaurus rex* is a rarity due to her size and completeness, as well as her unique pathologies that tell a fascinating story of her life and death. She is the second most complete *T. rex* on record, and the only skeleton of the species currently touring. Believed to have hatched 66 million years ago, Victoria lived to be a "sub-adult" between the ages of 18-25. Currently the subject of multiple scientific papers yet to be published, she has been thoroughly documented from her discovery in Faith, South Dakota through every step of her restoration.

The exhibition is produced by IMG in partnership with specimen owners Aber and Megan Whitcomb. One of the few *T. rex* specimens to be made widely available to the general public, Victoria will embark on a five-year tour across the globe in an immersive exhibition entitled *Victoria the T. rex*. Utilizing innovative technologies, interactive hands-on experiences and more, the exhibition will captivate and educate visitors of all ages, providing an up close and personal look at one of the fiercest and most mysterious creatures to walk the earth.

Located in the Sybil B. Harrington Galleries, the exhibition will be open to visitors of Arizona Science Center daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 17 through May 25. *Victoria the T. rex* is generously supported by APS, BlueCross® BlueShield® of Arizona, and U.S. Bank. To purchase tickets and learn more, please visit azscience.org/victoria.

ABOUT IMG

IMG is a global leader in sports, fashion, events and media. The company manages some of the world's greatest athletes and fashion icons; owns and operates hundreds of live events annually; and is a leading independent producer and distributor of sports and entertainment media. IMG also specializes in licensing, sports training and league development. IMG is a subsidiary of Endeavor, a global entertainment, sports and content company.

ABOUT ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER

The mission of Arizona Science Center is to inspire, educate and engage curious minds through science. The Center, located at 600 E. Washington Street in downtown Phoenix, features more than 300 hands-on exhibits, live demonstrations, the state-of-the-art Dorrance Planetarium, and the five-story Irene P. Flinn Giant Screen Theater. Adjacent to the main building is CREATE at Arizona Science Center®, a 6,500-square foot community makerspace providing workshops and resources including 3D printing, laser cutting, microcontrollers, woodworking, and sewing. The Center also offers various programs for all ages including CAMP INNOVATION, Preschool Saturday Science, professional development and learning for educators, and a monthly adults-only evening titled Science With A Twist. For additional details, please visit azscience.org.

###