



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCIENCE EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE FRANKLIN!
WEEKENDS IN JANUARY

Philadelphia, PA—January 6, 2009—The Franklin welcomes Winter '09 with Weekend Science Extravaganzas throughout the month of January! In addition to The Franklin's existing three floors of interactive exhibits, live science experiments now fill the halls on weekends beginning **Saturday, January 10**. Among the favorites is the **Van der Graff Experiment** – a must-see, live demonstration that will literally make your hair stand on end!

Additionally, interactive carts staffed throughout the museum provide hands-on education on a number of hot science topics. Learn how to make paper by hand at the **Papermaking Cart**, challenge your mind with games and puzzles at the **Puzzles & Brain Teasers Cart**, dissect sheep hearts and cow eyes at the **Heart and Brain Bar**, and discover the science of Nanotechnology at the **Nano Cart**! Before you leave, learn the science behind the Segway up close, ride the Baldwin 60000 on its new journey and see the "World's Cheapest Space Suit" - a replication of the \$10 million NASA version!

The Franklin also unveils a brand new demonstration in January during "The Science of Fireworks" live show. Witness a **towering inferno of bubbles** and see what really happens when you combine hydrogen, bubbles and fire! Other free live shows available are "Liquid Air" and "The Weather Show!"

All programs and events above are free with a Sci-Pass admission to the museum. For more information including hours and ticket information, please log on to www.fi.edu, or call 215-448-1200.

The Franklin has doubled its attendance in the last five years. Upgraded facilities, which range from a re-built heart to a 5,000 square foot store to blockbuster exhibits like *Titanic*, *BodyWorlds* and *Tut* have generated unprecedented attention and audiences. Increasingly a "go-to" destination, The Franklin is known for blockbuster exhibits, one-of-a-kind theatrical experiences, a growing roster of evening events for adults, and cutting-edge community learning (including a high school partnership with the School District of Philadelphia) with national influence. All are aimed at explaining science in ways that impact on people's lives. Founded in honor of America's first scientist, Benjamin Franklin, The Franklin Institute is a renowned and innovative leader in the field of science and technology learning, as well as a dynamic center of activity. It is dedicated to creating a passion for science by offering new and exciting access to science and technology in ways that would dazzle and delight its namesake.

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