

EVERHART MUSEUM

NATURAL HISTORY, SCIENCE & ART

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For Immediate Release

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Press Photographs are Available Upon Request

Fiesta at the Everhart on October 1, 2009!

Scranton – September 8, 2009: The Everhart Museum invites you and your friends to join us on Thursday, October 1, 2009 beginning at 6:00 pm for “**Fiesta at the Everhart Museum,**” a benefit preview featuring the Museum’s new exhibitions ***Day of the Dead: Art & Culture in the Americas*** and ***Celebrating Ancestors: Student Art at the Everhart.***

Day of the Dead: Art & Culture in the Americas is a family-oriented exhibit focused on the celebration and remembrance of family and friends, a universal theme found in all cultures. While Mexico is perhaps best-known for their Day of the Dead celebration, many other Latin American and Caribbean countries honor their ancestors on this holiday, including Brazil, Guatemala, Haiti, Martinique, and Peru. The Day of the Dead occurs on November 1st and 2nd in connection with the Roman Catholic observances of All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day. It is believed that during this time it is easier for the souls of the departed to contact the living; therefore, the celebration is one of joy, meant to encourage visits by the souls. ***Day of the Dead: Art & Culture in the Americas*** will feature contemporary art from nationally and internationally recognized artists, folk art, documentary photography, video installation, objects from the Everhart Museum’s Pre-Columbian collection, and other objects reflecting Mexican and other Latino cultures’ celebratory expression of *El Día de los Muertos*. ***Day of the Dead: Art & Culture in the Americas*** is exclusive to the Everhart and will be on display through December 31, 2009. The exhibition is funded in part by a grant from The Pennsylvania Humanities Council, with additional underwriting from the Foley Law Firm, Gertrude Hawk Chocolates, Inc. and Prudential Retirement.

Celebrating Ancestors: Student Art at the Everhart complements the Day of the Dead exhibit and showcases the work of area students who were invited to create artworks inspired by important people in their lives who have passed away, such as a parent, grandparent, friend or relative; several students also decided to focus on famous and notable public figures. Students involved in this exhibition represent: Abington Heights Middle School, EOTC/Scranton Area Family Center, South Scranton Intermediate School, and Wallenpaupack Area Middle School.

The evening promises great food, drink and an opportunity to preview two fabulous exhibits. This special benefit preview is limited to 220 people and reservations must be prepaid by credit card or check made out to “Everhart Museum.” Admission is \$25/person. RSVP by September 25th by calling the Everhart at 570-346-7186 or email general.information@everhart-museum.org. “**Fiesta at the Everhart Museum**” is sponsored in part by Parente Randolph, LLC.

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About the Everhart Museum: Founded in 1908, the Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art is the largest general museum in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Everhart Museum, located in Nay Aug Park in Scranton, is a not-for-profit institution dedicated to the collection, care and display of a diverse array of artifacts, including natural history, science and fine arts. Through our exhibits and programs, the Everhart Museum has become an invaluable regional resource for educational and cultural opportunities. General support for the museum is received from the Lackawanna County Office of Education & Culture, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the City of Scranton. For more information on the museum visit our website at www.everhart-museum.org or contact us at 570-346-7186.