



THE PHILLIP AND PATRICIA FROST MUSEUM OF SCIENCE ANNOUNCES PLANS TO OPERATE THE SCIENCE BARGE

Innovative floating environmental lab opened in 2016 at Museum Park

MIAMI – April 17, 2017 – The Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science is pleased to announce that on April 1, 2017 it accepted the generous gift of the Miami Science Barge from the Miami Science Barge, Inc. non-profit organization. Located steps away from the museum on Biscayne Bay in Downtown Miami’s Museum Park, the Science Barge is a floating laboratory that directly engages learners in the cutting-edge science behind sustainable technologies, living systems and marine explorations. The Science Barge provides the public with an opportunity to connect with marine science and conservation in the middle of a downtown, urban environment.

Frost Science is ensuring that all commitments previously made by the barge are met over the next few months. A calendar of public events can be found on the website: www.miamisciencebarge.org.

Designed and developed by Nathalie Manzano and Dr. Ted Caplow, the \$1.2 million Science Barge won the Knight Cities Challenge in 2015 and has been encouraging the community to discover the unique ecosystems of Biscayne Bay since its opening in April 2016. The 120-foot long, 30-foot wide barge has welcomed approximately 9,000 visitors and 3,000 students from 50 different schools for interactive STEM sessions.

“I’m delighted that the Science Barge’s mission will continue at Frost Science” said Manzano, who also served as the Executive Director of Miami Science Barge until the transfer to Frost Science. “The Science Barge showcases marine science, aquaculture, renewable energy and water conservation—all issues that are critical to the future of Miami” added Dr. Caplow.

As an environmental education center, the Science Barge will serve as a natural extension of the topics and learning opportunities offered by the museum’s Aquarium and science exhibitions. On board the barge, visitors will participate in active investigations into the surrounding marine life—from plankton to fish—while having a front-row view of the manatee families, dolphins and sea birds that sometimes visit the area.

As a major focal point for STEM education, the barge will also be a part of the museum’s citizen science (or crowd-sourced science) program, which offers the community an opportunity to connect with ongoing research projects and the work of scientists.

“Incorporating the Science Barge with the museum further amplifies the mission of Frost Science,” said Frank Steslow, President of Frost Science. “We are educators, always looking for new and innovative ways for our students to learn. The Science Barge gives our team another outlet to explore our environment and teach people about science. We are incredibly thankful to the Board of Directors of the Miami Science Barge, Ted Caplow, Nathalie Manzano and the rest of the crew of the Miami Science Barge for their hard work and vision in bringing this floating lab to Miami and entrusting its future success with Frost Science. We would also like to thank Bayfront Park Management Trust Chairman and City of Miami Commissioner Frank Carollo, along with all the Bayfront Park Management Trust Board Members for their support.”

Frost Science will be closing the barge for a period this summer for upgrades to the platform and onboard systems. Further schedule announcements regarding its reopening will follow. The Science Barge is located at 1075 Biscayne Boulevard, Museum Park Baywalk, Miami, FL 33132.

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About the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science (Frost Science)

Located in Downtown Miami’s Museum Park, the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science is a leading science museum dedicated to sharing the power of science, sparking wonder and investigation, and fueling innovation for the future. Sitting on four acres, the 250,000-square-foot museum divides into four buildings: the Frost Planetarium, Aquarium, and the North and West Wings. At Frost Science, visitors can explore the world of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in an experiential setting with interactive exhibitions and unique shows. Frost Science is supported by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County. This project is supported by the Building Better Communities Bond Program and the City of Miami. It is sponsored, in part, by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and a member of the Association of Science and Technology Centers. Learn more at frostsscience.org.