



THE PHILLIP AND PATRICIA FROST MUSEUM OF SCIENCE TO OPEN TWO NEW SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS ON OCTOBER 8, 2021

East Coast Premiere of *Skin: Living Armor, Evolving Identity* Presented by Baptist Health's Miami Cancer Institute

New *X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside Out* Exhibition from the Smithsonian

MIAMI, Fla. – On Friday, October 8, 2021, the [Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science](#) (Frost Science) will welcome two new special exhibitions to its campus, offering a unique experience for its guests. Discover the properties of skin across an array of organisms and examine the meaning humans have associated with skin color in [Skin: Living Armor, Evolving Identity](#), a bilingual, multi-sensory exhibition having its East Coast premiere at Frost Science, presented by Miami Cancer Institute, part of Baptist Health. [X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside Out](#), an exhibition from the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), features dramatic and striking X-ray prints exposing the inner workings of different species of fish, many of which are featured in the our Aquarium.

***Skin: Living Armor, Evolving Identity* Presented by Baptist Health's Miami Cancer Institute**

Uniquely personal yet universal, skin is the way we face our world. In ***Skin: Living Armor, Evolving Identity* presented by Baptist Health's Miami Cancer Institute**, guests are invited to dive deep into the shape-shifting, color-changing and ever-evolving science of skin. This multisensory, bilingual exhibition opening on Friday, October 8 explores skin as both a complex organ that serves as a living interface between organisms and their environment and a culturally significant characteristic that shapes how humans view themselves, perceive others, and interact with one another in a modern world.

The exhibition features dozens of scientific specimens from world-class research collections that showcase the incredibly adaptive properties of skin—including its remarkable ability to support and regenerate a variety of keratin-based structures like armored reptile scales, aerodynamic bird feathers and insulating mammal fur. From armadillos, pangolins and turtles that depend on thick skin, sharp quills and hard shells for protection and survival, to the most delicate insects, birds and invertebrates that breathe, communicate, attract and repel with their highly-tuned skin receptors, *Skin* gives guests a chance to see beyond the surface of these dynamic creatures.

Interactive, fully accessible displays invite guests to stimulate their own skin's array of senses to uncover how we perceive the sensations of temperature, vibration and pressure. Guests can also discover the surprising ways that skin functions as an ecosystem unto itself. From parasitic whale barnacles teeming with life to microscopic human face mites (spoiler: we all have them!), *Skin* offers a new lens through which to learn about evolution and diversity while examining these seemingly invisible worlds closer than

ever before.

While the exhibit is rich in eye-catching specimens and interactive displays, even more importantly, *Skin* aims to spark thought, reflection and dialogue around the social, political and cultural implications of race and identity. As guests make their way through the exhibition, a large digital mural will display a “sepia rainbow” of human faces, telling a striking visual story of skin’s incredible diversity.

Skin dives deeper to explore the layers of meaning humans have associated with skin color throughout history and how our ever-evolving social and political climate has influenced shifting ideas of race and culture in our modern world. Guests can also learn how evolution has shaped diversity in human skin over generations—and how much we still have yet to uncover about the underlying genetics of skin color.

The exhibition will also include a special curated section by Baptist Health’s Miami Cancer Institute which explores skin cancer by the specialists at Miami Cancer Institute's Multidisciplinary Skin Cancer Clinic. “We are honored to be supporting this important exhibition at Frost Science and showcase the importance of taking care of your skin and keeping an eye out for any changes or abnormalities,” shares [Dr. Naiara Braghiroli](#), Chief of Skin Cancer and Pigmented Lesions Clinic at [Miami Cancer Institute](#). “This exhibition makes it easy to see the diversity of skin in the natural world and provides an opportunity to have important conversations among diverse individuals in our communities and beyond.”

Skin: Living Armor, Evolving Identity is presented by Baptist Health’s [Miami Cancer Institute](#). The exhibition was created by the [California Academy of Sciences](#) and modified for travel and distributed by the [Science Museum of Minnesota](#). The exhibition is generously supported by Susan and Nicholas Pritzker and Family.

Skin: Living Armor, Evolving Identity will be on view from Friday, October 8, 2021 through Sunday, April 3, 2022 inside the Hsiao Family Special Exhibition Gallery on the first floor of the museum. Admission to *Skin: Living Armor, Evolving Identity* is included with all museum admission tickets. For more information on the exhibition, please visit frostsscience.org/skin.

X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside Out

Fish are vertebrates—animals with backbones— the majority have bodies supported by a bony skeleton while some only have cartilage. Variations in the skeleton, such as the number of vertebrae or the position of fins, are documented with X-rays. The Smithsonian’s National Collection of Fishes X-rays represent more than 70 percent of the world’s fish specimens and is the largest and most diverse collection of its kind in the world. Although the X-rays featured in the national collection were made for research purposes, the strikingly elegant images demonstrate the natural union of science and art and are a visual retelling of the evolution of fish. Opening on Friday, October 8, ***X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside Out***, an exhibition from the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), will showcase these dramatic prints exposing the inner workings of the fish.

The exhibition features 40 black-and-white digital prints of different species of fish. Arranged in evolutionary sequence, these X-rays give a tour through the long stream of fish evolution and have

allowed Smithsonian and other scientists to study the skeleton of a fish without altering the specimen, making it easier for scientists to build a comprehensive picture of fish diversity.

X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside Out is organized by the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES). It was inspired by the book *Ichthyo: The Architecture of Fish* (Chronicle Books in association with the Smithsonian Institution, 2008) by Stephanie Comer and Deborah Klochko.

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About the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science

Located in Downtown Miami's Maurice A. Ferré Park, the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science is a leading-edge 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 distinct 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. 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.

About Miami Cancer Institute

Miami Cancer Institute brings to South Florida access to personalized clinical treatments and comprehensive support services delivered with unparalleled compassion. No other cancer program in the region has the combination of cancer-fighting expertise and advanced technology—including the first proton therapy center in South Florida, Latin America and the Caribbean, and one of the only radiation oncology programs in the world with each of the newest radiation therapies in one place—to diagnose and deliver precise cancer treatments that achieve the best outcomes and improve the lives of cancer patients. The Institute offers an impressive roster of established community oncologists and renowned experts, clinical researchers and genomic scientists recruited from the nation's top cancer centers. Selected as Florida's only member of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer (MSK) Alliance, Miami Cancer Institute is part of a meaningful clinical collaboration that affords patients in South Florida access to innovative treatments and ensures that the standards of care developed by their multidisciplinary disease management teams match those at MSK.