

**They're Back! Dinosaurs Return to the Capital City at the
Connecticut Science Center's *Extreme Dinosaurs***
***New traveling exhibit showcases the most "bizarre" dinosaurs ever discovered with 22 life-size
animatronics, skeletons, and more***

Hartford, CT— April 13, 2015 — A new, bigger, toothier-than-ever array of realistic dinosaurs is now open at the Connecticut Science Center. The blockbuster exhibit, *Extreme Dinosaurs*, spans two exhibit galleries and gathers the world's biggest and strangest dinosaurs in an experience that showcases lifelike and life-size animatronic dinosaurs alongside full-scale skeletons and real and replica fossils. The exhibition, rooted in current scientific thinking and verified by paleontologists, features some of the newest, most bizarre dinosaur finds from the current "Golden Age" of paleontology, capturing the human fascination with dinosaurs at an exciting moment in dinosaur history. *Extreme Dinosaurs* was designed and produced by Dinosaurs Unearthed, and is presented exclusively at the Connecticut Science Center by the Hartford Courant and WFSB Channel 3.

"There is simply no substitute for the experience of standing in the shadow of a 50-foot, roaring T-rex to gain an appreciation for the scale and power of these creatures," said Matt Fleury, Connecticut Science Center President & CEO. "New species are being unearthed and identified at an unprecedented rate, and this cutting-edge exhibition will captivate our guests with its unique blend of science, inspiration, and excitement."

Upon entering *Extreme Dinosaurs*, guests are immersed in a naturalistic landscape similar to an ancient dinosaur habitat. There, they encounter 22 animatronic dinosaurs that roar, snarl, open their jaws, blink their eyes, move their limbs, and more. In addition to the life-size animatronic models, visitors will view skeletons, see a variety of real and replica fossils, and participate in interactive activities, making the exhibit a fantastic opportunity for family-friendly FUN as well as dino-focused education.

Visitors to the Science Center this summer can expect improvements to their favorite permanent exhibits, too. The popular Freeze Frame 360 exhibit, which allows visitors to take a 360-degree photo of themselves, will receive a new dinosaur-themed backdrop. One of the Science Center's most visited exhibits, the WFSB Early Warning Weather Center, is getting upgrades as well. Other recent additions include the popular Lunar Lander experience, Critter Corner and Energy City, as well as the Science Center's Subway café.

"We've seen extreme weather all winter long, and now it's time to gear up for an extreme summer with *Extreme Dinosaurs*," said WFSB Vice President / General Manager Klarn Depalma. "We've been proud to partner with the Science Center through our WFSB Early Warning Weather exhibit, which lets you be a meteorologist reporting the weather. Now, *Extreme Dinosaurs* will allow the Science Center's visitors to discover new dinosaur species, just like scientists. We are thrilled to help make it possible."

“Just like the amazing dinosaur discoveries that have been in the news lately, *Extreme Dinosaurs* will excite visitors to the Connecticut Science Center from our state and beyond,” said Jennifer Humes, Hartford Courant Marketing and Communications Director. “We are happy to help bring this exciting exhibit this summer.”

Highlights of *Extreme Dinosaurs* at the Connecticut Science Center include:

- A 20-foot-tall, 50-foot-long *T.rex* standing atop our building in the new “Dino Paddock”
- *Amargasaurus* from South America with extreme sails unlike any other sauropod
- The most extreme example of head ornamentation in a horn-faced dinosaur, *Kosmoceratops*, discovered in Utah and named in 2010
- *Pachycephalosaurus* with its dome-shaped head sporting knobs and spikes

Also among the attractions is a life-sized *Gigantoraptor*, a tall, feathered dinosaur discovered in China in 2005 that looks like the biggest Thanksgiving turkey of all time. It’s one of several feathered dinosaurs featured in the exhibition that showcase the theoretical relationship among dinosaurs and birds.

“*Extreme Dinosaurs* highlights modern and fascinating dinosaur discoveries and offers rich opportunities for learning in a highly immersive and entertaining environment,” said Nancy Brenner, Managing Director for Dinosaurs Unearthed. “We are thrilled to return and partner with the Connecticut Science Center to bring this dynamic experience to Hartford.”

Extreme Dinosaurs will be presented in the Connecticut Science Center’s Saint Francis Care Traveling Exhibit Gallery, and the Chase Family Foundations Gallery through September 6. Access to *Extreme Dinosaurs* is included with the purchase of General Admission or Membership. For more information, visit the Science Center’s website at CTScienceCenter.org.

###

About the Connecticut Science Center: The LEED-Gold certified Connecticut Science Center, located in downtown Hartford, sparks creative imagination and an appreciation for science by immersing visitors in fun and educational hands-on, minds-on interactive experiences while maintaining an environmentally conscious presence. Serving 1.7 million people since opening in 2009, the Science Center features more than 165 exhibits in ten galleries and a range of topics, including space and earth sciences, physical sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children’s gallery, and much more. Other features include four educational labs, a 200-seat 3D digital theater, function room, gift store, and ongoing events for all ages. The Science Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing science education throughout the state of Connecticut and New England, providing learning opportunities for students and adults of all ages, and engaging the community in scientific exploration. The Connecticut Science Center is also the home to the **Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Academy for Teachers**, offering powerful Professional Development for educators. More information: www.CTScienceCenter.org or 860.SCIENCE.

About Dinosaurs Unearthed: Dinosaurs Unearthed, located in Richmond, British Columbia, Canada, designs and produces a range of traveling exhibitions that includes *Dinosaurs Unearthed*, *Dinosaurs Alive!*, *Extreme Dinosaurs*, *Xtreme BUGS!* and *Creatures of the Deep*. The company creates outstanding guest experiences that are engaging, entertaining, and grounded in current science. Since the company’s launch in 2007, exhibitions have opened to great success throughout North America, Australia, Asia and Europe, inspiring millions of guests in museums, science centers, amusement parks, zoos and other venues. For more, visit www.dinosaursunearthed.com.