MEDIA ALERT: Friday, May 16, 2008

Omaha’s Passport to the Amazon!
Join us for Amazon Voyage: Vicious Fishes and Other Riches Press Preview on May 30th

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PRESS CONFERENCE & EXHIBIT PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
Friday, May 30, 2008
2:00 PM
The Durham Museum – 801 South 10th Street

SPECIAL GUESTS WILL ASSIST THE DURHAM IN UNVEILING THIS EXCITING EXHIBITION.

Sean Duran
Vice President, Exhibition
Miami Museum of Science

Danny Morris
Assistant Director
Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo®

Leo Smith II
Executive Director
The Durham Museum

(OMAHA, Neb.) – Please join us on Friday, May 30, at 2:00 pm as The Durham unveils its new temporary exhibit, Amazon Voyage: Vicious Fishes and Other Riches. Amazon Voyage takes visitors on an interactive journey to seven ports of call along the most biologically diverse river in the world, the Amazon. The exhibition explores the seven perils of the Amazon including the Electric Eel, River Stingray, Black Caiman, Anaconda, Piranha, Piraíba and Candirú.

Visitors can fan out to investigate and make their own discoveries. They can reach into the belly of a giant catfish and find out what its been eating; does it really eat monkey skulls and tennis shoes? Or test their will and be shocked by the charge of an electric eel; literally! But don’t worry it just a little one! There are also live fish tanks where visitors can look under the river from below by placing their head inside a submerged bubble. With the support of the experts from Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo®, live piranha will also be on display giving visitors an up-close view of these fascinating creatures.

By participating in hands-on examples of what scientist do, visitors will get a glimpse into the adventurous lives of field researchers such as Brazilian-born Harvard scientist Dr. Paulo Petry, who was the lead science advisor for the exhibit. Visitors can stick their hands into tank of muck and dig through fallen leaves, simulating the activity core to Petry’s research. If they are lucky, they may find the ‘muck fish’, a rare and bizarre tube shaped fish. Visitors to the exhibit will be some of the first people anywhere to ever see this fish, only recently discovered by Dr. Petry.

Amazon Voyage was developed and produced by the Miami Museum of Science and was created through the support of the National Science Foundation. The exhibition has been on display at the Smithsonian Institution and will be at The Durham Museum from May 31 through August 31, 2008.

About The Durham Museum
The Durham Museum, making its home in Omaha’s beautiful art deco Union Station, is home to permanent exhibits that preserve Omaha’s great history, traveling exhibits covering subjects ranging from history and culture, to science and industry, and many entertaining, educational, family-oriented activities. The Durham is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and has strong ties with the Library of Congress and National Archives. Admission is free for members; $7 for adults; $6 for seniors; and $5 for children 3-12. For information on The Durham Museum and its exhibits, please visit the museum’s Web site at www.durhammuseum.org.

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