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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2008

Darwin turns 200 years-old on February 12, and Duquesne University and many Pittsburgh museums are continuing the city-wide celebration with an extensive line-up of openings, lectures, activities, and performances for this February.

*"Few people have ever had such a profound impact on how we view ourselves and our world than Charles Darwin,"* states Duquesne professor and Darwin 2009 co-director Dave Lampe.

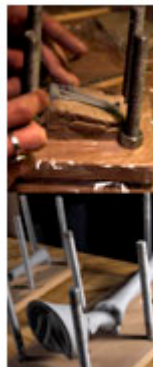
Discover the legacy this February!

## February Events



**Horse Evolution: Teen Docent Exploration Station**  
*Saturdays, opens February*

Did you know that horses used to be smaller than some birds? This new Exploration Station activity taking place at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History investigates the evolution of the horse by looking at horse feet. Teen docents will use four specially-made replicas of horse feet from as far back as 55 million years ago, to show the horse's foot has adapted to the changing climates in North America. Visitors can create their own horse feet impressions to take home.



*Making the replicas*  
Photographs by  
Dani Kramer

Conceptualized by the Partnership in Education Team and funded by the SEPA grant, the innovative replicas were created by Pittsburgh company Mechanical, who

Lectures, events and more  
[Visit us @Darwin2009](#)



### Schools & Homeschools

Discover evolution and more at Pittsburgh Museums! Click for details and free lesson plans.

Some activities may require scheduling ahead of time.

## February Events

### [Horse Feet Evolution at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History](#)

Carnegie Museum of Natural History  
*Saturdays, Opens February*

### ["Spiral of Life" Mural](#)

Carnegie Science Center  
*Opens February*

### [Duquesne University Red Masquers perform \*The Simpleton of the Unexpected Isles\*](#)

Duquesne University  
*Feb 12-14 & 19-21*

### [Ask Darwin](#)

Carnegie Science Center 4th floor  
*Everyday after February 6th*

## Evening Lecture Series

Feb 9

### ["Darwin Biographer"](#)

Janet Browne - Drue Heinz Lectures with Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Duquesne University & SEPA

*At Duquesne University:*

has been sculpting and building models for the museum for over a decade. Today they are able to use digital modeling to create durable and identical replicas of million-year old fossils!

Visitors are encouraged to first visit the American Museum of Natural History's traveling exhibition, [The Horse](#), to witness evidence for the evolution of the horse and the significance of the horse in human history.

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### The 'Spiral of Life' Mural Series

Opening February at the Carnegie Science Center

Darwin originally created the tree of life diagram to translate evolutionary relationships. This type of diagram forms still the basis of modern evolutionary biology, but has led to several misconceptions. "We propose a new symbol for evolution, the spiral, over the traditional tree to offer a new understanding of evolution, that emphasizes the common origin and the equality of all living things," said Joana Ricou, art director at the Partnership in Education.

The SPIRAL OF LIFE mural series will explore a unique angle of the evolution of Life at each host museum, the Carnegie Science Center, the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquariums, the National Aviary, Phipps Conservatory, and the Children's Museum. At the Carnegie Science Center, the first mural traces our current understanding of evolution to Darwin's notes!



[Learn more about the mural](#) »

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**The Simpleton of the Unexpected Isles** - a performance by the [Duquesne University Red Masquers](#)  
Feb 12-14 and 19-21

**Feb 12**

["Humans as an Evolutionary Patchwork" Charles Darwin 200th Birthday Lecture](#)

Alan Walker, Evan Pugh Professor of Anthropology and Biology at Pennsylvania State University

**Feb 20**

["Social Darwinism and Philanthropy in Pittsburgh's Gilded Ages: The Untold History of Charles Darwin, Herbert Spencer, and Two of the 'Richest Men in the World'"](#)

Paul Krause, Professor of History at the University of British Columbia

For Act 48 credit please [register online](#) »

[More Evening Lecture Series](#) »

## Science Talks "Evidence for Evolution"

Fri at Duquesne University and Sat at Carnegie Museum of Natural History

**Feb 6 & 7**

["Darwinian Medicine: A New Approach to Health and Disease"](#)

Paul Sherman, Cornell University

**Feb 9**

["Darwin Biographer"](#)

Janet Browne at the Carnegie Music Hall

**Feb 20 & 21**

["From a Hermit to a King: When and Where did the Hermit Crab Lose its Shell?"](#) -- Cliff Cunningham, Duke University

**Feb 27 & 28**

["Great Steps in the History of Life: Finding an Evolutionary Link between Fishes and Limbed Vertebrates"](#) (Act 48 credit)

Ted Daeschler, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia

For Act 48 credit please [register online](#) »

[More Science Talks](#) »



*The Simpleton of the Unexpected Isles* is a satirical comedy by George Bernard Shaw, which explores the themes of eugenics, religion, and useful productivity in a modern society.

The play follows the lives of several British subjects who, together with the local natives, strive to build a perfect society on a island paradise. Shaw lampoons just about every social convention from marriage to vegetarianism to war - with the Rapture thrown in for good measure!

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“Ask Darwin” - The Darwin Synthetic Interview

Discover what it would be like to talk to Darwin. The Darwin Synthetic Interview lets visitors ask Darwin-his ‘ghost’-up to 199 questions about his life, his times, and science and evolution.

Developed by Duquesne University and the Entertainment Technology Center (ETC) of Carnegie Mellon University, the Darwin Synthetic Interview opens to the public in early February as a permanent installation called “Ask Darwin” at the Carnegie Science Center.

[Learn more about Darwin's Synthetic Interview »](#)

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## More Darwin 2009 Events!



**Black Holes, Beakers, and Books**  
Book Club

Are you interested in exploring the vast mysteries of the cosmos, understanding

## Ongoing Events

[Our Cells, Our Selves](#)

Planetarium Show  
Carnegie Science Center, Buhl Planetarium  
Everyday at 4pm, [check show times](#)

## More Darwin 2009 events!

[Black Holes, Beakers, and Books](#) - a new book club at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Main

[“Darwin Remembers: A Play”](#) at the Carnegie Science Center

Do you have an event that you think would add to the celebration? If so, please contact: [darwin2009@duq.edu](mailto:darwin2009@duq.edu)

## In The Press

- Duquesne professor will lead Darwin celebration  
[Pittsburgh Tribune](#)
- Forget Sweet 16: Darwin, Duquesne fete 200 years  
[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- Clarke Thomas: The great insight that binds us - *The year of Darwin will be a time to consider our evolution*  
[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

## Links

- [Official Darwin 2009 website](#)
- [“The Horse”](#) at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History

## Contact Us

Visit [the Darwin 2009 site](#) or email [darwin2009@duq.edu](mailto:darwin2009@duq.edu).

human evolutionary history, or talking about the long-term future of the planet earth? These topics and more will be discussed in [this popular science book club](#) that reads and discusses popular science books published within the last five years. [Check out the Darwin 2009 lectures that explore the book club topics.](#)



**“Darwin Remembers: A Play”**

*Saturdays at 2pm - January 31, February 7, February 14, February 21, & February 28*

[The Darwin Center for Science and Reason](#) presents a one-hour dramatic performance of Darwin’s life starring Dr. David Campbell as Darwin. The play tells Darwin’s story from his voyage of the HMS Beagle to his death, discussing the discovery of the principle of evolution. [More info](#) »

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