

**EMBARGOED TILL JANUARY 8, 2008**

**CONTACT:**

**Becky Mayad 214-352-1881  
Cell 214-697-7745  
bmayad@sbcglobal.net  
Museum of Nature & Science**

**Anne Marie Burke 310-453-2247  
Cell 310 866 0073  
a.burke@morphosis.net  
Morphosis**

**MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE NAMES PRITZKER PRIZE LAUREATE THOM MAYNE  
OF MORPHOSIS ARCHITECT FOR NEW FACILITY**

**FACT SHEET**

**WHAT:** The Museum of Nature & Science has named 2005 Pritzker Prize Laureate Thom Mayne of Morphosis as the architect for its new facility to be built at Victory Park in Dallas, Tex.

**WHO:** Thom Mayne is the only American in the past 16 years (since 1991) to be selected for architecture's most prestigious award, the Pritzker Prize. This achievement capped a three-decade career in which Mayne has received more than 100 awards and honors from across the world. Mayne is founder and principal of the Los Angeles-based firm Morphosis. A dedicated educator for the past 35 years, Mayne also is co-founder of the influential Southern California Institute of Architecture, a tenured professor at UCLA, and a visiting teacher/lecturer who travels across the globe.

Mayne's most prominent projects include the Phare Tower in Paris; the Federal Building in San Francisco, Calif.; the Wayne L. Morse U.S. Courthouse in Eugene, Ore.; the University of Cincinnati Campus Recreation Center in Cincinnati, Ohio; the Hypo Alpe-Adria Bank in Klagenfurt, Austria; and the Diamond Ranch High School in Pomona, Calif.

**WHY:** Plans have been in the works for several years to build a new state-of-the-art museum to supplement the existing Fair Park facilities. The need for additional space became even more critical after the 2006 merger, unlike any in the nation, of three cultural institutions -- the Dallas Museum of Natural History (est. 1936), The Science Place (est. 1946) and the Dallas Children's Museum (est. 1995).

The new facility will dramatically increase space so the Museum can showcase a wider spectrum of its valuable collections, incorporate modern technology, host world-class traveling exhibitions, and greatly expand its educational programs for school children and the general public.

**- more -**

**WHERE:** The Museum of Nature & Science will be located on a 4.7-acre site at the northwest corner of Woodall Rodgers Freeway and Field Street adjacent to Victory Park.

The facility will be walking distance from the American Airlines Center; W Hotel; and House of Blues; and just minutes from the Dallas Arts District, the largest urban cultural district in the country; the Sixth Floor Museum; the Trinity River Corridor Project; and intown districts such as Uptown and Turtle Creek.

Visitors will have easy access to the Museum by riding DART light rail trains to Victory Station at the American Airlines Center; by traveling on any of the nearby roads, including Interstate 35E, Central Expressway and the North Dallas Tollway; or by using the Katy Trail pedestrian/bicycle paths.

**SIZE:** The new facility is projected to be approximately 150,000 square feet.

**TIMELINE:** The land has been purchased, and groundbreaking is projected to take place in 2009. Upon completion, the Museum of Nature & Science is expected to emerge as one of the region's top destinations, attracting more than 1 million visitors annually.

**FUNDING UPDATE:** The Museum has more than \$45 million in capital committed to date towards its current goal of \$155 million, which will fund the site acquisition, exhibition planning and design, construction of the new building, education programs and an endowment. Major lead gifts include \$10 million from Hunt Petroleum, \$10 million from The Rees-Jones Foundation, \$5 million from the Heglund Foundation, and \$2.5 million from the Corrigan Family.

The Museum of Nature & Science is currently accepting financial donations. To learn more, please call Anne Haskel at 972-201-0591 or email her at [ahaskel@natureandscience.org](mailto:ahaskel@natureandscience.org).

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** For more information about the Museum of Nature & Science, go to [www.natureandscience.org](http://www.natureandscience.org) or call 214-428-5555.

###

### **About the Museum of Nature & Science**

*The Museum of Nature & Science, formerly the Dallas Museum of Natural History, The Science Place and the Dallas Children's Museum, is a non-profit educational organization currently located in Dallas' Fair Park. In support of its mission to inspire minds through nature and science, the Museum delivers exciting, engaging and innovative visitor experiences through its education, exhibition, and research and collections programming for students, teachers, families and life-long learners. The facility also includes the TI Founders IMAX® Theater and a cutting-edge digital planetarium. The Museum of Nature & Science is supported in part by funds from the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs and the Texas Commission on the Arts. To learn more about the Museum of Nature & Science, please visit [www.natureandscience.org](http://www.natureandscience.org).*