

Smithsonian *Young Benefactors*

MARCH 2008

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Dear YB Member,

From new exhibits to special events to unique film festivals, there is always something exciting to experience at the Smithsonian! With 19 museums and 9 research centers, it is easy to understand how the Institution attracts over 20 million visitors annually. We realize that with a museum complex this large, it can be difficult to keep up with all of the activities offered. Therefore, we have added a section to our monthly eNewsletter titled **Smithsonian Spotlight** that will provide you with information on events and exhibits that we think you will enjoy!

In addition, you will notice that our YB/RAP event of the month has been replaced with a list of recommended RAP events. Now that all YBs receive the member price to these programs, we encourage you to visit ResidentAssociates.org and find an activity that interests you.

Finally, don't forget to attend our monthly Happy Hour, Second Saturday Tour, Voices to Access Project, and New Member Dinners to meet other YBs while giving back to this great Institution.

Encourage your friends to join! Please forward this newsletter and bring a friend to our monthly Happy Hour events. For membership or event information, go to www.YoungBenefactors.org or email yb@si.edu.

Sincerely,

Katharine Reishman, Director
Jaclyn Reimann, Coordinator

YB Second Saturday Tour

Saturday, March 8, 12:00 p.m.

Location: National Museum of Natural History
Intersection of 10th St. and Constitution Ave., NW,
Washington, DC
Metro: Smithsonian Metro Station
(Mall exit, Blue or Orange lines)

Members Only! FREE!

"Dinosaurs"

Experience the Smithsonian's own "Jurassic Park," where you can see – and in one case touch – the bones of dinosaurs! Assembled are fossils of dinosaurs that lived between 213 and 144 million years ago. Center stage is the eighty-four foot long *Diplodocus longus*. Sharing the Jurassic stage, you will see the *Allosaurus* poised to strike. Surrounding them are dinosaurs that roamed during the Cretaceous period, between 144 and 65 million years ago, including

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Edmontosaurus annectens. The Eleventh Hour diorama re-creates the Cretaceous world shortly before dinosaurs disappeared.

As an added bonus, the Young Benefactors will stop by the Winston Gallery to view the renowned "Hope Diamond," which is the most popular museum object in the world, along with other sparkling treasures.

Space is limited! Email ybsecsat@yahoo.com by March 1 to reserve your space. **Reservations will be taken by email at this address only and are required to attend.** Our group will be meeting at the Information Desk opposite the Elephant diorama in the Museum's Rotunda. The Smithsonian Young Benefactors are planning to go to lunch following the event. Attendees will be responsible for their own lunch and any applicable gratuities. All are invited to attend.

Please provide the following information in your email:

- "March Tour Reservation Request" in the subject line
- Your name and your YB Member ID

YB New Member Dinners

Monday, March 10, 6:45 to 9:00 p.m.
Monday, March 31, 6:45 to 9:00 p.m.

Location: [Tallula](#)

2761 Washington Blvd, Arlington, VA – 202.778.5051
(Clarendon Metro, Orange line)
See [Menu](#)

Calling All New Members!

The Young Benefactor Leadership Committee invites you to attend our New Member Dinners at Tallula. These dinners provide a perfect opportunity to meet other new Young Benefactors as well as current members and chairs of our committees. There is no charge to attend the dinner; however, attendees are responsible for their food and drink costs along with any applicable gratuities.

At Tallula, you will enjoy use of their semi-private Wine Room, discounted beer and wine specials, complimentary platters of "Amuse Yourself" items, and separate checks.



Reservation Policy: New Member Dinners are designed to provide new members with an opportunity to meet each other and learn about the organization in a small group setting (10 to 15 people per dinner). Therefore, we require that all interested attendees RSVP. Seats for each monthly dinner will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If the available seats have been filled for the dinner you request, your name will be placed on the waitlist, and you will be confirmed for a seat at a future dinner.

To RSVP: Send an email to ybnewmembers@yahoo.com with the following information: "New

Member Dinner" (Subject Line), your name, email, phone, date of dinner you would like to attend, month/year you joined, and your YB member ID.

Voices to Access Volunteer Project

Saturday, March 15th, 10:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: [National Museum of American History](#)

14th Street & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: Federal Triangle or Smithsonian Metro (Blue and Orange lines)

The Voices to Access Project provides cassette recordings of the *Smithsonian* magazine and other printed materials to more than 800 people monthly who are visually impaired. YB members volunteer in the packaging and mailing process, allowing the Smithsonian to offer the recordings free to those who need it. It is a wonderful way to give back to the Smithsonian while meeting other YB members in a small group setting. The group may go to lunch afterwards.

Since the museum is now closed for renovation until summer 2008, you will receive instructions on how to enter the museum upon signing up. The Voices to Access Project takes place in the Accessibility Office (Room 2100A) on the second floor. The office is situated near the end of the *Communities in a Changing Nation* exhibition.

For information or to sign up, e-mail voicestoaccess@yahoo.com.

YB Happy Hour

Wednesday, March 19th, 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: The Park at Fourteenth

920 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: McPherson Square Metro (Franklin Square Exit, Blue or Orange Lines)

Nonmembers Welcome! Free!

Join the YBs as they visit DC's new hot spot, The Park. Enjoy spectacular views of Franklin Park while you get a "Taste of the Park" by sampling complimentary bites from their grill. Be sure to bring your friends as our monthly happy hours provide nonmembers with a great venue for learning about our organization. And, as your mixing and mingling, don't forget to make a donation to the YB Culture4Kids Fund, which provides local youth with access to the diverse, educational experiences offered by The Smithsonian Associates' Summer Camp and Discovery Theater.

For more information, please contact yb@si.edu.

YB Spotlight

Openings, Events, and Exhibitions of Interest

[Butterfly Pavilion at the Natural History Museum](#)

The National Museum of Natural History opened the free exhibit Butterflies and Plants: Partners in Evolution along with the ticketed Butterfly Pavilion on February 15. The Butterfly Pavilion is a brightly lit climate-controlled environment filled with living plants and many different species of butterflies. Once inside the Pavilion, visitors become part of the exhibit. These creatures fly freely throughout the space, landing on plants and people alike! Young Benefactors members can purchase tickets for just \$5. (Member price is available for purchases made by phone at 202-633-4629 or at any Smithsonian IMAX Box Office.) On Tuesdays, the Museum offers free admission on a first-come, first-served basis.

["In Plane View" Photography Exhibit Opens at the National Air and Space Museum](#)

Opening on March 21st, "In Plane View," an exhibition of fifty-six large-format photographs by Carolyn Russo, showcases the beauty of some of the National Air and Space Museum's most iconic aircraft. The exhibit directs the viewer's attention away from the function and towards the simple elegance of these flying machines. Russo uses quotes from pioneers, pilots, poets, and other artists to evoke both the thrill and beauty associated with flight.

[After Hours at the Hirshhorn](#)

On April 4th, visit the Hirshhorn for a special after-hours event. From 8 p.m. to midnight, attendees will enjoy an evening of moving images, music and a cash bar. Listen to music by DJ Soloman Sanchez or watch Los Angeles-based artists Luke Fischbeck and Sara Rara perform as Lucky Dragons and Hooligan perform "Reeler" in 3D. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

[Exhibit – Treasures of American History](#)

If you miss strolling through the halls of the National Museum of American History, then come to the National Air and Space Museum to view the exhibit "Treasures in American History." More than 150 objects reflect four areas of the American experience: Creativity & Innovation, American Biography, National Challenges, and American Identity. Items on display include: Dorothy's ruby slippers, Kermit the Frog, Abraham Lincoln's top hat, Lewis and Clark's compass, Custer's buckskin coat, the Greensboro lunch counter, Thomas Jefferson's bible, and Edison's light bulb.

[42nd Annual Smithsonian Kite Festival](#)

On March 29th, the Kite Festival will celebrate China with the theme "Brush Strokes in the Sky." Come down to the National Mall between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to watch colorful, traditional Chinese kites fly over the Washington Monument grounds. You can even take part in the action by participating in one of three festival competitions – the handmade kite competition, Rokkaku Kite Battle, or the Smithsonian Hot Tricks competition. The festival also includes demonstration booths, displays of Chinese kite art, and a special opening ceremony.

Recommended Resident Associate Events

As a Young Benefactors Member, you receive member discounts to the nearly 1,200 Resident Associate programs offered each year. Below is a list of my favorite programs for March. Visit ResidentAssociates.org or grab a copy of the monthly *Smithsonian Associate* catalog for a complete program listing and ticket information.

[Dinner with Chef Frank Morales at Rustico](#)

Tuesday, March 11, 6:30 p.m.



Meet Chef Frank Morales and beer director Greg Engert at Rustico for a beer-and-food-pairing dinner that sparkles with creativity. The freshest ingredients, simply cooked, are perfectly harmonized in traditional ways. Wood smoke and a hearth oven contribute to the unique flavors and textures that characterize this imaginative chef's culinary repertoire. As much attention is given to the beer as to the food at Rustico: More than 300 types of ales, lagers, stouts, and ciders from around the world are available in bottles and cans. There are thirty beers on tap, cask-conditioned ale poured from a hand pump is served nightly, and the restaurant offers tasting flights and beer cocktails.

[2008 Environmental Film Festival](#)

March 11 - 22



Established in 1993, the Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital provides fresh perspectives on environmental issues around the globe with documentary, feature, archival, animated, and children's films. Upcoming films include the March 12th showing of *The Alps*, which celebrates the beauty of the Alps and the indomitable spirit of the people who live to climb and explore the mountains, and the March 20th D. C. premiere of *Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk*, which combines science and adventure to explore the challenges and opportunities involved in conserving and restoring watersheds. Visit www.dcenvironmentalfilmfest.org for more information.

[Capturing Details in Photography](#)

March 29 – April 26, 9:30 a.m.



Develop your eye for color and composition while exploring creative ways to photograph flowers and architectural details using your digital camera. Students with working knowledge of their cameras learn techniques of close-up photography, including setting up a shot, shooting from a tripod, and using long and macro lenses. On-location shooting sessions with the instructor are held at the Gannett headquarters building, Brookside Gardens Conservatory and outdoor gardens, and the Franciscan monastery. The course begins with an illustrated lecture and culminates in a final critique of work produced in class.

Please share your thoughts and/or questions. The YB Committees value your input and welcome all volunteers -- Contact information and Committee descriptions are available at YoungBenefactors.org.

For more information on the Young Benefactors of the Smithsonian Institution, visit www.youngbenefactors.org.

For more information on the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program, visit www.residentassociates.org.

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