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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**GREAT LAKES SCIENCE CENTER TO HOST EXCLUSIVE *DARWIN* PREMIERE
TO CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION**
Opportunity for donors to sponsor educators expands scope of premiere

CLEVELAND (April 12, 2009) – In collaboration with Case Western Reserve University, Great Lakes Science Center will be celebrating the opening of its newest traveling exhibition, *Darwin*, with a special premiere the night of June 27. Educators will be the focus of the evening, with sponsors and those purchasing tickets being encouraged to underwrite tickets for teachers or bring them as guests.

“Helping educators and the public understand Charles Darwin, the man and the scientist, is crucial to the mission of Great Lakes Science Center,” said Ellen Worthington, director of development. “We want to give something to teachers that they can bring back with them to the classroom, and giving the option for donors and sponsors to underwrite their tickets is a great way to provide such a unique opportunity for so many science educators to visit. We also want our donors and visitors to understand the importance of Darwin and his theories.”

Opportunities to participate include: Individual Ticket at \$250; Educator Seats at \$1,000; Patron or Educator at \$3,000; VIP at \$5,000, and Sponsorship at \$10,000. The premiere will benefit the science camps and educational programs at Great Lakes Science Center.

The premiere will be complete with tours of the exhibition, cocktails and a light dinner, as well as demonstrations and programming throughout the night. The demonstrations will help give educators ideas as to how to approach the teaching of evolution in the classroom.

Committee members for the premiere include Barbara R. Snyder, honorary chair; Rosanne Oatey, chair; Dennis A. Cocco, corporate chair, and Jeanette Grasselli Brown, board chair.

Local sponsors of *Darwin* include Cuyahoga County Arts and Culture, the John P. Murphy Foundation and Parker-Hannifin Corporation.

Darwin has been traveling since 2005, and is organized by the American Museum of Natural History in New York, in collaboration with the Museum of Science, Boston; the Field Museum, Chicago; The Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada; and the Natural History Museum, London, England.

For tickets or more information, contact Kathy Grant at 216-696-4521.

About the Great Lakes Science Center

The Great Lakes Science Center is one of the nation's leading science and technology centers, featuring more than 400 hands-on exhibits, themed traveling exhibits, daily demonstrations, the awe-inspiring OMNIMAX[®] Theater and the steamship *William G. Mather*. The Science Center is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with discounted parking available for guests in the attached 500-car garage. The Great Lakes Science Center is generously funded by the citizens of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture. For more information, contact the Science Center at (216) 694-2000 or visit www.GreatScience.com.

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