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**CAMBRIDGE SCIENCE FESTIVAL PRESENTS THE WORLD'S LARGEST MODEL OF
THE HUMAN GENOME**

Created by the MIT Museum and the Broad Institute, the Human Genome Trail is designed to introduce you to yourself – or at least the part of yourself encoded in your DNA!

CAMBRIDGE, MA – April 17, 2007 – The world's largest model of the human genome will make its debut at the Cambridge Science Festival starting April 21st. Presented by the MIT Museum in collaboration with the Broad Institute, the Human Genome Trail will span the 2 miles from Kendall Square to Harvard Square. The trail is designed to introduce you to yourself, or at least to that part of yourself that is encoded in your DNA; in short, your genome.

The Human Genome Trail, a unique exhibit created specifically for the first ever Cambridge Science Festival taking place April 21-29, will follow Main Street and Massachusetts Avenue in Cambridge and will represent the human genome with 23 pairs of chromosome banners that will hang from lamp posts on the streets. Along with each pair of chromosome banners, there will be accompanying window displays in neighboring businesses that will give factual information about the genes on that pair of chromosomes. Genome trail markers will be placed on lamp posts along the route, making the trail easy to follow. Printed trail guides will be available at the information booth in Harvard Square, the MIT Museum, the Museum of Science, the Broad Institute and many other locations along the route. The trail guide includes a map of the route as well as a fun scavenger hunt that people can participate in as they walk the trail. Answer all the questions correctly and you could win a prize. (See trail guide for details)

Afraid you might get lost? Not to worry, guided tours of the Human Genome Trail will be given on Saturday and Sunday, April 21-22, April 28-29, and May 5-6. Ninety minute tours will be given at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm and will begin at both the Kendall and Harvard Square T stops. Tour guides wearing genome trail t-shirts will be standing outside the T station entrances at the designated times and will be happy to guide you through the human genome step by step.

“Cambridge is world renowned for its research on the genomes of humans and other organisms,” said John Durant, director of the MIT Museum and executive director of the Festival. “More of the human genome was mapped and sequenced in Cambridge than anywhere else in the world,” said Durant. “To celebrate Cambridge’s role in this vitally important area of 21st century science and medicine, the MIT Museum and the Broad Institute have collaborated to create this unique model of the genome. I hope it will give people who live and work here a better sense of some of the extraordinary genomic research that’s going on all around us right here in Cambridge.”

The Cambridge Science Festival, taking place April 21-29, is being presented by the MIT Museum in collaboration with the City of Cambridge, Cambridge Public Library, Cambridge Public Schools, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Museum of Science, and WGBH. Sponsors of the festival include Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Alliance Foundation for Community Health, Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Biogen Idec, Broad Institute, Cell Press, Draper Laboratories, Fidelity Investments, Genzyme, Merck & Co., Inc., Metabolix, Inc., Millenium Pharmaceuticals, Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Pfizer Research Technology Center, and Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc. Supporters of the festival and its programs include the Cambridge Arts Council, Cambridge Community Foundation, Council for the Arts at MIT, Massachusetts Cultural Council, and Partnership for a Nation of Learners, a leadership initiative of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

For more information on the Cambridge Science Festival and a complete listing of events and locations visit www.cambridgesciencefestival.org.

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