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CAMBRIDGE HOSTS THE FIRST CAMBRIDGE SCIENCE FESTIVAL

*Nine days of captivating events highlighting the excitement of discovery
and the impact of science in all of our lives.*

CAMBRIDGE, MA – March 1, 2007 -- For nine days in April, the streets of Cambridge will come alive in a first-of-its-kind celebration of science and technology. The Cambridge Science Festival, presented by the MIT Museum, will take place April 21-29, 2007 and will highlight the excitement of discovery and the impact of science in all of our lives. Events during the nine day festival will take place in a variety of locations throughout Cambridge and are open to the public.

The festival will consist of a wide range of activities for children, teens, and adults, including several programs commissioned and produced specifically for this inaugural year. Events include a hands-on science carnival, interactive exhibitions, plays, concerts, poetry readings, lectures, demonstrations, workshops, walking tours, and much more. In a unique collaboration between festival organizers and the community, the majority of the festival programming will be produced by community members. A call for entries resulted in nearly 200 proposals from individuals, groups and organizations, all wanting to participate.

The festival will feature over 150 events throughout the city and will give people an opportunity to get up close and personal with music-playing robots and alternative-powered concept cars; learn about the natural world by exploring vernal pools and spring gardens; become a science star on PBS's Dragonfly TV, defy gravity by making and launching soda-bottle rockets; discover the wonders of genetics while walking along the newly inaugurated Genome Trail; and view the skies with resident astronomers. There will be eco-tours of the Charles River, exhibits and performances exploring the convergence of art and science, and a televised live town meeting.

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Several local science and technology businesses will be opening their doors to the public for special events and others will be participating in “Career Exploration Day,” a program designed to bring recent graduates working in science and technology fields to middle and high school students to help explore career path options.

“Science is about exploration and discovery. We hope the festival enables people to explore Cambridge – the ultimate ‘Science City’ - and discover some of its hidden science treasures. We also hope that by demystifying science we can pique the interest of young people and inspire them to pursue an education in the science, technology or engineering fields,” said John Durant, director of the MIT Museum and Festival Executive Director. “But most important, we want the festival to be exciting and fun!”

The Cambridge Science Festival 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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