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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
SUE: The T. rex Experience

SUE IS BACK! BIGGER THAN EVER!
OPENING MAY 27TH, 2022 AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER OF IDAHO

Boise, ID - SUE the *T. rex* is the most complete, best-preserved *Tyrannosaurus rex* ever discovered. And this spring, SUE's coming to Boise, Idaho. The Discovery Center of Idaho has partnered with the Micron Foundation to host a special exhibition featuring the latest scientific discoveries about this incredible fossil, opening May 27th, 2022. Visitors will get to explore the sights, sounds, and smells of SUE's world, see casts of real dinosaur fossils, and come face to face with an exact cast of SUE's skeleton.

"We last hosted *A T. rex Named Sue* over five years ago and it was one of the most popular exhibitions ever brought to the Discovery Center. We were able to secure this brand-new version for a short time (only 12 weeks) as it tours the U.S." says Eric Miller, Executive Director. "This all-new exhibition is twice as amazing as last time and features an updated skeleton along with a full-sized SUE - muscles, skin and all - with incredible life-like detail. You won't want to miss it!"

SUE's fossils are on permanent display at the Field Museum in Chicago, so the traveling exhibition gives people all over the world a chance to experience one of the biggest *T. rex* specimens ever found. This exhibition features an exact cast of SUE's skeleton, measuring in at 40 feet from snout to tail and 13 feet tall at the hip. Visitors will be able to see a lot more than just SUE's skeleton, though—new interactives and digital technologies will highlight the latest scientific discoveries and show people what SUE's world was like.

"It's exciting because we get to see how scientists continue to learn more about topics we think we understand by continuing to ask questions and apply critical thinking. Plus, who doesn't love getting the chance to feel what it's like to be up close to a full-grown *T. rex*?" says Emily Mahon, Education Director.

To help visualize how SUE would have looked in life, there's a full-size, fleshed-out replica of a *T. rex* battling one of its favorite prey: the duck-billed herbivore *Edmontosaurus*. Visitors will also be able to

immerse themselves in SUE's world. A giant floor-to-ceiling screen shows realistic animations of SUE interacting with other prehistoric animals, and interactive stations give visitors a chance to smell prehistoric plants and even scientists' best guess of what SUE's breath would have smelled like. The experience also includes a multimedia light show highlighting details of SUE's skeleton, touchable bronze casts of some of SUE's bones, and a station where visitors can hear and feel the deep, low rumbling of SUE's growl.

In addition to the new technologies and interactives that make SUE's world come alive, this exhibition highlights new scientific discoveries about *T. rex* in general and SUE in particular. While SUE was first found in 1990, scientists are learning new things about *T. rex* every day, due in large part to SUE's incredibly well-preserved bones. In this new traveling exhibition, SUE's skeleton includes all the latest scientific updates, including an extra set of bones that scientists weren't quite sure how to position when SUE was first found. These bones, called gastralia, are "belly ribs" that stretched across *T. rex*'s abdomen and helped it breathe. They make SUE look bigger and more ferocious than ever before.

"We can't wait to reintroduce SUE to the world," says Jaap Hoogstraten, the Head of Exhibitions at the Field Museum who oversaw the updates to SUE and the new components of the traveling exhibition. "SUE is the crown jewel of the Field's collections, and now we're finally showing them off the way they deserve."

SUE: The T.rex Experience was organized by the Field Museum and is part of the Griffin Dinosaur Experience, made possible by the generous support of the Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund.

Sponsor

This exhibition was made possible by the generous support of the Micron Foundation.

About the Center

The Discovery Center is a private non-profit 501(C)3 organization. Our mission is to inspire lifelong interest and learning in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). We believe learning is fun and expands minds and lives. Because of the opportunities and exhibitions we provide, our community is more scientifically literate, curious, and empowered to explore.

Admission Prices & Hours

Admission is FREE for members. For non-members, admission is \$20 for adults ages 18+, \$19 for seniors ages 65+, \$13 for youth ages 2-17, FREE for children under age 2. \$1 discounts for active military and veterans and Museums for All subsidized program available for those with a valid EBT card. We're open 10am to 4:30pm Monday-Saturday and 12pm to 4:30pm on Sundays.

Other Updates

Thank you for supporting lifelong learning in STEM! The Discovery Center of Idaho is thrilled to provide this world-class exhibition to the community. There are some items you should know before your visit:

- Timed entry ticket purchases with limited capacity
- Contact-free payment options at the door (Debit or Credit Card only please)

- Designated entrance and exit with an automatic door opener to minimize surface contact
- Floor staff busy cleaning all surfaces throughout the day
- Automatic hand sanitation stations and hand washing throughout the Center
- Visitors are required to wear masks and practice social distancing

For more information: dcidaho.org | 208.343.9895 | 131 Myrtle St. Boise, ID 83702