



ABOUT THE PEROT MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE
(updated May 10, 2011)

On November 18, 2009, the Museum of Nature & Science broke ground on a world-class, state-of-the-art museum at Victory Park in Downtown Dallas, which will supplement the Museum's existing programming and operations at Fair Park. The \$185-million museum will be named the **Perot Museum of Nature & Science**. Here are some fast facts about the new museum that *The Dallas Morning News* architecture critic Scott Cantrell called "the boldest piece of modern architecture to hit Dallas."

NAME: In May 2008, the Perot children made a \$50-million gift to the Museum in honor of their parents, Margot and H. Ross Perot. The Victory Park facility will be named in their honor. The Perot children are Katherine Reeves, Carolyn Rathjen, Suzanne McGee, Nancy Perot and Ross Perot, Jr.

THEME: Because the Museum's mission is to "inspire minds through nature and science," the new museum design fully embraces both the natural world, such as biology and geology, and the technology and engineering sciences of the manmade world.

LOCATION: The new museum is being built on a 4.7-acre site at 1155 Broom Street in Dallas, adjacent to Victory Park. The facility is situated just north of Downtown Dallas at the northwest corner of Woodall Rodgers and Field Street.

ARCHITECTS: The architect is Thom Mayne, 2005 Pritzker Prize Laureate, and his California-based firm Morphosis. Mayne is the first American since 1991 to be selected for architecture's most prestigious award.

The landscape architect is Dallas-based Talley Associates.

EXHIBIT DESIGNERS: AMAZE Design
Paul Bernhard Exhibit Design, Austin
Science Museum of Minnesota

PROJECT TEAM: Consulting Architect: Good Fulton & Farrell
General Contractor: Balfour Beatty Construction
Development Manager: Hillwood Development Corp.

MUSEUM LEADERSHIP: CEO: Nicole G. Small
COO: Terrell Falk
CFO: Sally Pietsch
VP Development: Elisabeth Galley
Chief Curator: Anthony Fiorillo, Ph.D.
Director of Education: Steve Hinkley
Board Chair: Peggy Allison
Expansion Campaign Chair: Forrest Hoglund

SIZE: The 180,000-square-foot museum will stand approximately 14 stories high.

PROJECT COST: \$185 million (includes site acquisition, exhibition planning and design, construction of the new building, education programs and an endowment)

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DESCRIPTION:

- The design features an overall building mass conceived as a large cube floating over a landscaped plinth (roof).
- The landscape consists of an acre of rolling roofscape comprised of rock and native drought-resistant grasses reflecting Texas's indigenous landscape and demonstrates a living system that will evolve naturally over time.
- A significant feature is the 54-foot continuous-flow escalator contained in a 150-foot glass-enclosed tube-like structure that dramatically extends outside the building
- A large urban plaza – complete with cafe tables, seating and water features – will be available for gatherings and public events
- The building itself will be used as a “living” example of engineering, sustainability and technology at work.

MUSEUM FEATURES:

- Five floors of public space – approximately 80 percent of the building, which is a remarkably high degree – is devoted for public usage.
- Expansive glass-enclosed lobby and adjacent outdoor terrace with downtown view
- 10 permanent exhibition halls including a children's museum and outdoor playspace/courtyard
- State-of-the-art traveling exhibition gallery designated to host world-class exhibitions
- Ground-level exhibit workshops surrounded by large windows making workshop activity accessible for public viewing
- Education wing equipped with six learning labs
- Large-format, multi-media digital cinema with seating for 300
- Flexible-space auditorium
- Public café and retail store
- Exhibit workshops visible from the ground level
- Offices for museum staff

ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES:

- The building and the outdoor areas will be used as “a dynamic science lesson and living lab” providing provocative examples of engineering, technology and conservation.
- A rainwater collection system will capture run-off from the roof and parking lot to fill two 25,000-gallon cisterns, which will satisfy all non-potable water needs.

EXHIBIT HALLS:

Exhibit halls will feature video; 3-D computer animation; thrilling, lifelike simulation; hands-on activities; interactive kiosks and dioramas; quizzes; tabletop landscapes; animated music videos; high-resolution, computer-generated flyovers; and more. The exhibit halls are as follows:

Being Human Hall
The Rees-Jones Foundation Dynamic Earth Hall
Texas Instruments Engineering and Innovation Hall
Life: Then & Now Hall
Bird Gallery
Discovering Life Hall
Tom Hunt Energy Hall
Children's Museum
Sports & Play Hall
Gems & Minerals Hall
Expanding Universe Hall
Jan and Trevor Rees-Jones Exhibition Hall

- more -

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- ACCESS:** Visitors can access the museum from multiple entrances: The main entrance on the plaza side facing west towards Victory Park and the anticipated future second alignment for DART; a major event/education entrance on Field Street to serve large school buses and tourist groups; and a grand staircase located on the southeast corner of the site allowing foot traffic from the Woodall Rodgers Deck Park and Arts District to connect to the Museum.
- PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION:** Parking will be available around the building and in nearby lots under the Woodall Rodgers overpass. Visitors will have easy access by riding DART light rail trains to Victory Station, by traveling on any of the nearby roads or highways, or by using the Katy Trail pedestrian/bicycle paths.
- NEARBY:** Conveniently located in the heart of Dallas near the American Airlines Center (where the Dallas Mavericks and the Dallas Stars play), the Arts District, Uptown, the West End and more. The Victory Park facility will offer easy access to roads, DART, and pedestrian and bicycle paths on the Katy Trail.
- WEBCAM:** To track the progress of the new Museum, view the construction site WEBCAM at natureandscience.org/expansion/default.asp
- INFORMATION:** Go to natureandscience.org, call 972-201-0555 or send email to expansion@natureandscience.org
- MEDIA CONTACT:** Becky Mayad 214-352-1881 work
214-697-7745 mobile
becky@mayadpr.com

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