

EVERHART MUSEUM

NATURAL HISTORY, SCIENCE & ART

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For Immediate Release

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Press Photographs are Available Upon Request

Everhart Museum to Participate in Annual International Bird Event Saturday, May 8, 2010, 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Scranton, April 9, 2010: Join the Everhart Museum on Saturday, May 8, 2010 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm for ***International Migratory Bird Day: The Power of Partnerships*** as we explore the birds that make fantastic journeys and the rich history and story-telling surrounding them. International Migratory Bird Day is a world-wide event (held annually on the 2nd Saturday in May) in celebration and support of migratory bird conservation. The Everhart Museum's celebration will feature bird games, bird-themed art and educational activities designed for visitors of all ages.

This year's *Power of Partnerships* theme is illustrated by an international art exchange partnering children from Pennsylvania with their English counterparts. Hand-drawn postcards of native birds created by 3rd grade students from Springvale Primary School in Penistone, Sheffield, England will be displayed alongside those by students from Marian Catholic and All Saints' Academy located in Scranton.

Migratory Bird Day promises to be a fun-filled family-oriented afternoon with something for everyone. On-going activities for Pre-K aged children will include *Imagination Station*, a creative play nest building activity led by the Everhart Museum. Children of all ages will enjoy creating *Bird Kites* based on the American Kestrel and designed by retired aeronautical engineer Donald Zurfluh; participating in the Museum's *Great Migration Challenge* outdoor obstacle course designed to simulate the challenges facing migratory birds; witnessing bird-banding demonstrations by Dr. Rob Smith, Assistant Professor of Biology at The University of Scranton; creating crafts with Nescopeck State Park's Junior Bird Club (a division of the Great Wyoming Valley Audubon Society); watching demonstrations on how to make block prints led by Dan Demora and his students from Lackawanna Trail High School; and viewing bird-themed artworks made by woodcarver Bob Crane, photographer Fred Hanstein, and painter Connie Sickler. Join storyteller Karen Slachta of the Valley Community Library for fascinating *Bird Tales* at 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm. Make sure not to miss the Everhart's exhilarating *Dancing with Birds* activity at 2:30 pm led by the Everhart Museum's Director of Interpretative Programs, Aleta Wynn Yarrow. And of course, visitors can always take a self-guided tour of the Everhart's Bird Gallery which includes more than 2,000 ornithological specimens, a legacy from museum founder Dr. Isaiah Fawkes Everhart who was an avid bird collector and amateur taxidermist. This collection is an important scientific resource for the region and includes specimens from India, Africa, Oceania, South America, and North America, including several Pennsylvania specimens such as the Ruffed Grouse.

All activities are free with paid admission to the Museum and reservations are not required. For more information on Migratory Bird Day, contact the Everhart at 570-346-7186 or email: general.information@everhart-museum.org.

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About the Everhart Museum: Founded in 1908, the Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art is the largest general museum in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Everhart Museum, located in Nay Aug Park in Scranton, is a not-for-profit institution dedicated to the collection, care and display of a diverse array of artifacts, including natural history, science and fine arts. Through our exhibits and programs, the Everhart Museum has become an invaluable regional resource for educational and cultural opportunities. General support for the museum is received from the Lackawanna County Office of Education & Culture, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the City of Scranton. For more information on the museum visit our website at www.everhart-museum.org or contact us at 570-346-7186.