

Winter 2011 PROGRAMS

CONNECTICUT STATE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
& CONNECTICUT ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER



UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



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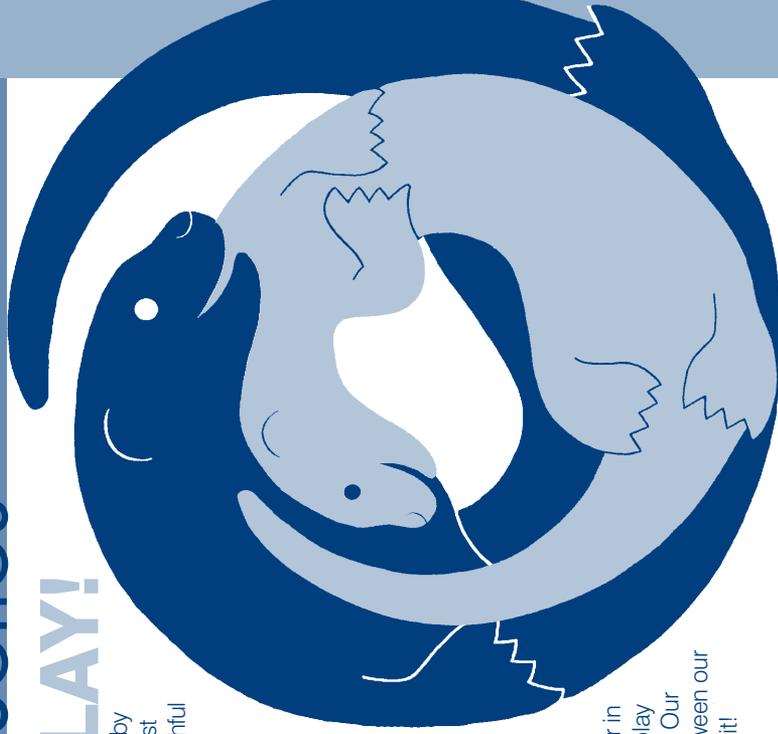
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Special Program Series

The Natural History of PLAY!

Play is a common and not well-understood behavior shared by many animals with complex nervous systems. Science almost seems to take all the fun out of it by defining play as the youthful experimentation with adult behaviors in order to learn how to survive. But it is so much more. Play teaches us about the abilities of our bodies, about social order, about our relationship to the physical environment we live in, and may even be at the root of imagination and creativity. Although there is still much to learn, it is clear that play behavior has increased many species' opportunity for survival and has become an integral part of their evolutionary development.

Over the next year, we invite you to join us for a special series on *The Natural History of Play*. Through lectures, programs, and workshops we will bring together experts from the University of Connecticut and beyond who will help us understand how the physical and biological processes occurring around us have shaped play behavior in animals. We will also explore what human expressions of play reveal about our changing relationship to the environment. Our goal is to take a closer look at the intimate connection between our natural history and our cultural history, and have fun doing it!



860 • 486 • 4460 WWW.MNH.UCONN.EDU



Native American Gaming Through History

Saturday, February 19, 10 am to 12 noon

Stephen Cook, Curator, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center
Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, Ledyard, CT
(map will be mailed to participants)

Advance registration required: \$30 (\$25 for Museum members)

Includes admission to the Museum

Adults and older teens, ages 16 and above.

The subject of Indian gaming may evoke images of large and successful gambling casinos here in Connecticut and elsewhere in the United States and Canada. However, Native American gaming has a rich and long tradition stretching back into pre-history. Some of these games were for children, but many were for the entire family and even the whole community. Anthropologist and curator at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center Steve Cook will tell you about these ancient traditions, showing you selected items from the research collections not currently on display. Afterwards, enjoy the Museum's exhibits detailing Native American history in New England as well as contemporary works by artists and craftspeople from all over the Americas.





Worlds of Wonder: Nature in the Playground

Frederick Martin, Director, Environment Design, Milford, CT

Saturday, April 9, 10 am to 12 noon

Stamford Museum & Nature Center, Stamford, CT (map will be mailed to participants)

Advance registration required: \$20 (\$15 for Museum members)

Adults and children ages 6 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Have you ever wondered what it's like to be the size of an insect and wander along a spider's web? Or what it would be like to be a baby bird in a nest? How about dashing through a hollow log like a chipmunk? Thanks to the ingenious designs of Fred Martin, playscape designer and founder of Environment Design, you can do all of these and more! Mr. Martin, with degrees in Art and Urban Studies, set out to create a new field of design for playscapes, melding the concepts of safety in playground equipment with imaginative play, kinesthetic learning, and the natural environment. He will tell you how he developed this field, and introduce some of his designs scaled to let children (and adults!) feel like they are the size of various animals in their natural forest habitats. Stamford Museum & Nature Center has one of his company's playscapes available for you to play on! After the activity, spend a lovely afternoon visiting the Stamford Museum and Nature Center's interactive exhibits.



Workshops



Play Your Way to Fitness!

Colleen A. Thompson, MS, RD, Director, Hawley Armory Fitness & Wellness Programs, and Hawley staff Tuesday evenings, 5 pm, February 8 through April 19 (except March 8), 10 weeks total
Hawley Armory Fitness and Wellness Center, UConn Storrs (map will be mailed to participants)
Advance registration required: \$75 for the series (\$60 for Museum members).
Adults, ages 18 and above

Children naturally exhibit many forms of body play, including climbing on playground equipment, impromptu races and ball games, and other unorganized activities. As adults, with adult responsibilities, we tend to relegate body play to the back burner and our health can suffer as a consequence. This semester, the Museum and Archaeology Center is partnering with the Hawley Fitness and Wellness Center, part of UConn's Department of Allied Health Sciences, to offer this opportunity to try modern forms of body play and movement such as Zumba, Nia, and Pilates as well as the ancient practices of Yoga and Tai Chi, and others. Put fun back on your schedule and play your way to fitness!

Scientific Illustration—Birds!

Virge Kask, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UConn
Saturday, March 12, 10 am to 12 noon
Museum of Natural History, UConn Storrs (map will be mailed to participants)
Advance registration required: \$25 (\$20 for Museum members) Includes materials
Adults and children ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

This year we will focus on the world of birds in our annual scientific illustration workshop led by EEB's Scientific Illustrator Virge Kask. Birds have been a subject for artists and illustrators throughout time due to their graceful forms, incredible variety of colors, ability to fly, and even their mythological significance. Join us as we look closely at bird skeletons, feathers, and mounted museum specimens as models for drawing. Using dissecting microscopes, light microscopes, and the naked eye, examine bird and feather anatomy in detail. Then, Ms. Kask will teach you the best techniques for conveying the essence of these captivating animals using pencil and paper, and give you tips for drawing from life as well as from mounts. You will receive a folder with information about scientific illustration and supplies for making your illustrations in the classroom.

Ancient Technologies—Soapstone Carving

Cheri Collins, Museum Staff

Saturday, March 19, two sessions: 10 am to 12 noon or 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Museum of Natural History, UConn Storrs (map will be mailed to participants)

Advance registration required: \$25 (\$20 for Museum members) Includes materials
Adults and children ages 10 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Because of its unique geological characteristics such as heat retention and ease of carving and polishing, soapstone has been used by people throughout the world to produce many different items of utility and beauty. Learn about the geology and the history of human use of this mineral. Examine samples of different types of soapstone from local quarries and around the world, as well as both ancient and modern soapstone cooking vessels and art objects. Then, using traditional implements, make a carving of your own design to take home!



Ancient Technologies—Quillwork on Birchbark

Cheri Collins, Museum Staff, UConn

Saturday, March 26, 10 am to 12 noon

Museum of Natural History, UConn Storrs (map will be mailed to participants)

Advance registration required: \$20 (\$15 for Museum members) Includes materials
Adults and children ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Native American art of decorating birch bark boxes and other ornaments with porcupine quill “embroidery” is a beautiful traditional craft. The work of both skilled historic and modern quillwork artists is highly prized by collectors and museums. You will learn about the lore and natural history of the porcupine and the birch tree, and see examples of quilled birchbark in a slide presentation by Ms. Collins. Then, you will learn how to do this unusual art form using natural materials to create a piece to take home.

Bringing the Ancient World to Life Through Video Gaming

Dr. Roger Travis, Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies, UConn

Saturday, April 16, 10 am to 12 noon

UConn Storrs location (map will be mailed to participants)

Advance registration required: \$20 (\$15 for Museum members)

Adults and children ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Video games are a popular pastime, especially among college students. Some academics have begun to adapt video gaming to the teaching of traditional subject matter, bringing a fresh perspective and a new excitement to learning in the institutional setting. In this workshop, we will engage in a Greek classics micro-course, using the game-based format that Dr. Travis has developed to teach

his classics courses. With the other participants in the workshop, you will play the beginning of what Travis calls a “practomimetic course,” becoming a member of a team tasked by the all-powerful Demurge with saving civilization by learning to read Greek and to appreciate the achievements of the ancient Athenians. This workshop will allow you to play with the ancient classics in video-game format, a dramatically new and unique approach.

Ancient Technologies—Making Flint Tools

Heather Cruz, Anthropology, UConn
Dr. Cara Roure-Johnson, Anthropology, UConn
Saturday, April 30, 10 am to 12 noon

Museum of Natural History, UConn Storrs (map will be mailed to participants)
Advance registration required: \$20 (\$15 for Museum member) Includes materials
Adults and children ages 12 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

You may have seen “arrowheads” and other ancient stone tools on exhibit in museums—this is your chance to make and use them! In this workshop, you will learn about the history and art of flint knapping: producing stone tools with sharp edges by percussion and pressure. This type of tool use predates modern humans by at least 1.5 million years, as discovered by UConn scientist Dr. Cara Roure-Johnson. Learn how archaeologists identify and date these tools, what properties make materials appropriate for use in this type of tool manufacture, and discover the many different types of sharp-edged stone tools used by our ancestors.

Through experimentation, and observation of the people who still manufacture and use these tools, we now have a good understanding of this ancient technology. Today, there are many individuals and organizations devoted to knapping. Learn how to use some of these tools for woodworking and food preparation. Then, you will flint-knap to create tools yourself! Try your hand at this type of stone tool manufacture under the guidance of UConn archaeologist and “knapper” Heather Cruz in this exciting workshop.

B



Kids-Only Workshop



A Look at Children's Games Through History

Cheri Collins, Museum Staff

Saturday, April 2, 10 am to 12 noon

Museum of Natural History (map will be mailed to participants)

Advance registration required: \$20 (\$15 for Museum members)

Students ages 6 and above.

Throughout history and prehistory, children have played games. Let's look at some of these games and learn to play them together. Using reproductions of pre-historic board games from ancient Mesopotamia, Native American children's gaming pieces, colonial children's board games, and actual board games from the 20th century, you will learn to play your way through history. If the weather permits, we will also go outside to play some Native American and colonial outdoor games. See how these games compare to video games that you may play at home today!



Lectures

Change & Continuity in the Play History of American Children

Dr. Howard Chudacoff, Brown University

Sunday, February 6, 3 pm

Biology/Physics Building, Storrs campus, Room 130

No registration required—FREE

Adults and children ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Children at play. This phrase evokes memories from all of our childhoods, and often prompts us to make comparisons between the memories of our childhoods and what we see children doing today. How did children play in America's past? Visions of hardworking farm and factory child laborers may come to mind, or conversely, of an idyllic freedom to wander the fields and forests with other children, engaging in imaginary pursuits.

Dr. Howard Chudacoff, George L. Littlefield Professor of American History and Professor of Urban Studies at Brown University has extensively researched and documented children's play throughout the history of the United States. What follows from his research, *Children at Play: An American History*, is a fascinating look at the continual conflict between parents' and society's insistence that play be structured and supervised to teach morals and models of behavior, and children's desire to be free of supervision in the natural world, devising their own games and imaginary play. Book signing to follow lecture.



Feasting with the Dead on the Eve of Agriculture: Ancient Animal Remains from a Burial Cave in Israel

Dr. Natalie Munro, Department of Anthropology, UConn
Sunday, March 20, 3 pm
Biology/Physics Building, Storrs campus, Room 130
No registration required—FREE
Adults and children ages 10 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Zooarchaeological evidence from a small burial cave in Israel reveals evidence that prehistoric funerary feasts and shamanism were practiced as early as 12,000 years ago, at the very beginning of human transition from hunter-gatherer to agriculturalist. The site of Hlazon Tachtit in Israel, where Dr. Munro has conducted her research for several years, contains a variety of unusual animal deposits associated with funerary practices.

Some of the animal remains are directly interred with humans' graves while other animal remains were likely produced as part of the activities associated with human funeral practices. In particular, the butchered remains of parts of at least three Aurochs (ancient wild cattle) provide early evidence for feasting at the site, as do the butchered remains of more than 70 tortoises that were later interred in the grave of one woman. This woman's grave also contains unusual purposely-deposited animal parts; these remains attest to the unique position of this woman within her community. The animal remains from Hlazon Tachtit have important implications for social life and ritual practice during the Mesolithic Natufian culture of the Eastern Mediterranean, and the Neolithic period that followed. These remains provide strong early evidence for communal activities in the Natufian period, one of agricultural transition.

Horseplay!

Dr. Jennifer Nadeau, Animal Sciences Department and
Equine Extension Specialist, UConn
Sunday, April 3, 3 pm

Biology/Physics Building, Storrs campus, Room 130

No registration required—FREE

Adults and children ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

We tell children to “quit horsing around”, or describe exuberant play in children as “horseplay”. What is the basis for these commonly used phrases? Horses are social group-living animals just like humans, and like humans, play is an integral part of their maturation and their social communication. Play has been well documented and described in wild horses as well as in domesticated horses. We will explore the types of play behavior we see in horses and examine the similarities and differences in play between horses of different ages and different social situations. Some of the questions we will look at will include whether play objects designed for horses really stimulate play and whether horses develop “voices” due to play or lack of play. Discover the answers to these questions and more by joining Equine Extension Specialist Dr. Jennifer Nadeau for an intimate look into the mind of one of man’s most cherished domestic animals, the horse!



Lectures continued

The Promises & Pitfalls of

Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing

Dr. Linda Strausbaugh, Center for Applied Genetics and Technology, UConn
Sunday, April 10, 3 pm

Biology/Physics Building, Storrs campus, Room 130

No registration required—FREE

Adults and children ages 10 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Genetic testing that is currently commercially available promises the individual information on everything from past ancestry to future susceptibility to disease. This lecture will introduce you to the basic science and innovative technologies that enable this new revolution in genetic testing. The ethical, legal, and social implications of direct-to-consumer genetic testing will also be explored.

Special Lecture & Meeting
of the Friends of the Office of State Archaeology

Andersonville & Fort Pulaski: Archaeology at Two American Civil War Prisoner-of-War Sites in Georgia

John H. Jameson, National Park Service
Saturday, January 29, 2 pm (Snow date: Sunday, January 30)
Smith Middle School, 216 Addison Road, Glastonbury, CT
Adults and children ages 10 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission: \$12, \$5 for students with ID.

The Edwin Way Teale Lecture Series on

NATURE & THE ENVIRONMENT



The Edwin Way Teale Lecture Series is a collaborative effort inspired by the recognition that our greatest hope for protecting our environment relies upon our working together with respect for, and understanding of, different viewpoints. It is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences; Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, the Graduate School, Offices of the President & Provost, College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, School of Engineering, Center for Conservation & Biodiversity, Connecticut State Museum of Natural History, Office of Environmental Policy, Center for Environmental Sciences & Engineering, School of FineArts, Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, School of Law, Geosciences Program, and the departments of Agriculture & Resource Economics, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Economics, English, Marine Sciences, Geography, Natural Resources Management & Engineering, Philosophy, and Political Science.

The public is welcome to attend. No registration is needed. Lectures will be held at the Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut. For additional information visit <http://ooldcenter.uconn.edu/events/teale/teale.htm>

Finding Common Ground

Rick Bass, Author & Environmental Activist

Thursday, February 17, 4 pm

Rick Bass is a noted novelist, nature writer, and environmental activist. His stories convey a deep reverence for nature and provide reasoned arguments for the benefits of preserving wilderness areas. His memoir, *Why I Came West* (2009), was a finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Award. In 2009, he wrote *The Wild Marsh: Four Seasons at Home in Montana*, which *Publishers Weekly* gave a starred review. *The Roadless Yaak: Reflections and Observations About One of Our Last Great Wild Places* (2007), which Bass edited, attempts to forge alliances with diverse groups of loggers, hunters, and other residents in an effort to protect a vital corridor for genetic replenishment of wildlife from Canada.

The Friends of the Office of State Archaeology (FOSA), The Archaeology Society of Connecticut (ASC), and the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center, part of CLAS at UConn, are co-sponsoring this special lecture in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the American Civil War. The FOSA annual meeting begins before the lecture at 1 pm and is open to the public.

The Civil War may be best known for the battles at Fort Sumter, Antietam, and Gettysburg. An equally horrific aspect of this bloody conflict was the prisoner-of-war experience: an estimated 56,000 men perished in these prisons, a casualty rate higher than on the battlefields. Archaeologist John Jameson's talk will focus on two Georgia prison sites, managed by the U.S. National Park Service, in which archaeology has played an important role: Andersonville National Historic Site and Fort Pulaski National Monument.

John Jameson is a senior archeologist with the US National Park Service. His 25-plus years of public service have encompassed a broad range of projects in cultural heritage preservation and cultural resource management throughout the United States and overseas. A recognized national leader in public archaeology programs, he is a key player in the organization, development, and evaluation of training courses for park rangers and cultural resource specialists in the effective interpretation of archaeological and cultural heritage resources.

Tropical Forests, Climate Mitigation, & Agricultural Production

Dr. Ruth S. DeFries, Denning Professor of Sustainable Development Department of Ecology, Evolution & Environmental Biology, Columbia University
Thursday, March 31, 4 pm

Dr. DeFries examines human transformation of the landscape and its consequences for climate, biogeochemical cycling, biodiversity, and other ecosystem services that make our planet habitable. Her work is based on the premise that land use change involves tradeoffs between human necessities such as food and unintended environmental consequences such as greenhouse gas emissions and habitat loss. A particular focus is tropical deforestation and its impacts on atmospheric carbon emissions. DeFries examines land use changes over broad scales through the lens of satellite observations. She is actively involved in linking scientific information into policy decisions.

Challenges in Water Provisioning, Delivery, & Quality for Urban

Populations: An Analysis of Global Patterns & an Arid Land Case Study

Dr. Nancy Grimm, Professor, Arizona State University
Ecology, Evolution, & Environmental Science, School of Life Sciences
Thursday, April 28, 4 pm

Dr. Grimm's studies how landscape heterogeneity and climate variability influence the retention, cycling, and transport of nitrogen, in desert and urban landscapes. She is Lead Principal Investigator and Co-Director of the Central Arizona-Phoenix Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) project, a study of the Phoenix metropolis and surroundings that is one of the first comprehensive investigations of an urban ecosystem. She is a believer in interdisciplinary approaches to answering fundamental ecological questions, collaborating with hydrologists, engineers, geologists, chemists, sociologists, geographers, and anthropologists (among others) in her urban and stream studies.



Saturday Afternoons at the Museum



Drop in any time between 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm on these Saturday afternoons to join in a fun hands-on activity and explore your world through experimentation and observation. Recommended for students in grades 1 through 5, accompanied by an adult. **FREE!**

Native American Children's Games

Saturday, January 22, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Many traditional Native American children's games were games of skill and chance. Join us at the Museum and learn how to play some of these games such as the deer toe bone game, ball and triangle, and bowl and dice (using reproductions) and test your own skills and powers of observation!

Colonial Children's Games

Saturday, March 12, 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Did you ever wonder what sorts of games colonial children of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries played? Visit the Museum and play some of the same games, such as Nine Man's Morris, ring toss, and marbles (using reproductions) that your great-great grandparents might have played.

Twentieth Century Children's Games

Saturday, April 16, 1:30 to 3:30 pm

Have you ever played some of the games your parents and grandparents loved such as checkers, Scrabble, and Parcheesi? Visit the Museum and play some of these games and more. Fun for the whole family!

EEB Greenhouses

The Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Greenhouses have one of the most diverse plant collections in the US. The collection consists of over 2,600 species. The Greenhouses, recently organized by biome, specialize in collecting and displaying the oddities of the plant world including a large collection of carnivorous plants, anti-plant symbionts, and an extensive collection of plants from a biodiversity hotspot--the Cape region of South Africa. There is something new to see every day at the EEB Greenhouses! Learn more at: <http://florawww.eeb.uconn.edu/>.

The Greenhouses are located on the University of Connecticut Storrs campus behind the Torrey Life Sciences building and are open to the public Monday through Friday from 8 am until 4 pm. The Greenhouses' staff is generally on-hand to answer any questions you may have or help you find a specific plant you wish to see. If you would like to verify that a particular part of the collection will be open during your visit, please call the Greenhouses at (860) 486-4052.

From North, West & Southwest: Take I-84 to exit 68. Head south on Route 195 seven miles to campus.

From South: Take Route 32 north. Cross "Frog Bridge" in Willimantic; continue forward to Route 195 to Campus.

From East: Take Route 44 west to Storrs. Turn left on Route 195. Campus is one mile south.

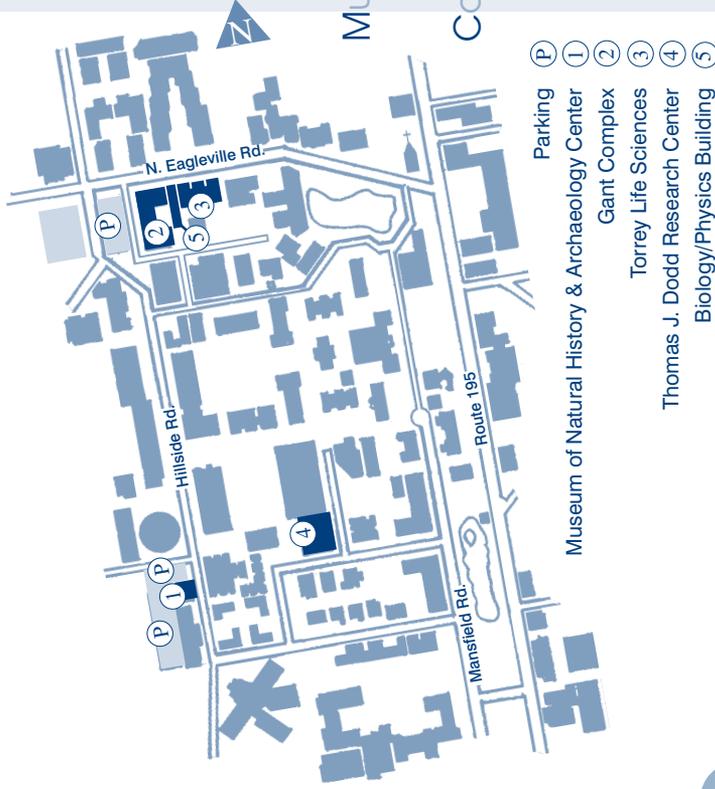
Museum Hours

10 am to 4 pm, Wednesday through Friday.
Closed Saturday through Tuesday.

Campus Parking

Weekend visitors (or weekdays after 5 pm) can park free in available spots along streets or in parking lots. The parking garage is available for a charge.

Weekday visitors can park in parking garages.



Registration

Registration: Keep in mind that workshops fill up quickly. We suggest you call to confirm availability before submitting registration fee. Registrations are processed in the order payment is received. Your registration has been accepted unless you hear from us.

Scholarships: Scholarships are available for individuals who cannot afford to attend programs. Call for more information.

Weather: In case of inclement weather, CSMNH/CAC programs may be rescheduled or canceled. Participants will be called prior to the program. Registrants who cannot attend a rescheduled event will be given a certificate or refund.

Cancellations: The CSMNH/CAC reserves the right to cancel programs due to insufficient enrollment. If a class is canceled, you have the option of receiving a certificate toward another program or a refund. Refunds take up to six weeks to process through the state system. Certificates are immediate.

Refund Policy: The CSMNH/CAC will refund a payment up to 30 days prior to the program or you may find a friend to attend in your place. Please call us at 860-486-4460.

Liability: Registration or participation in a CSMNH/CAC program automatically releases the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center and the University of Connecticut from any responsibility for injury or death, or loss or damage of personal property sustained in connection with the program.

Photography: Individuals participating in a program may be pictured in future CSMNH/CAC publications.

Members Save!

- Reduced rates on programs
- Discount Coupon for UCONN Co-op
- Membership fees and donations are tax-deductible
- Donor Members receive guest passes to bring a friend to programs at the membership rate
- Exclusive members-only newsletters and updates

Owl (Donor) Member

___ Barn Owl	\$600
___ Screech Owl	\$300
___ Snowy Owl.....	\$150
___ Saw-whet Owl.....	\$75

Standard Member 1 year 2 year

___ Family	\$45	\$80
___ Couple	\$40	\$70
___ Senior Couple.....	\$35	\$60
___ Individual	\$35	\$60
___ Senior/Student.....	\$25	\$45



PLEASE MAKE SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP CHECK PAYABLE TO: UCONN FOUNDATION (MNH)

Contact Information

Registrant Name _____ Phone # _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Program Information

	# of Participants	Age of Child Participants	Fee
• Play Your Way to Fitness _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
• History Nat. Am. Gaming _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
• Sci. Illustration-Birds! _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
• Soapstone Carving _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
• Quillwork on Birchbark _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
• History Children's Games _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
• Worlds of Wonder _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
• Ancient World Video Gaming _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
• Making Flint Tools _____ Names _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
			TOTAL \$ _____

How did you learn about the program you are registering for? _____

Payment Information

Member _____ Membership # _____ Nonmember _____

Please make registration check payable to **UCONN (CSMNH)**

Send to: **CSMNH, UCONN, UNIT 1023, STORRS, CT 06269-1023**

The Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center
 are part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UConn.

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