



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2010

Contact: Kristi Taylor

Phone: (904) 396-MOSH, ext. 241

Email: ktaylor@themosh.org

MOSH Announces Lead Gift for Planetarium

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Jacksonville will soon be home to the next-generation in planetarium technology thanks to The Bryan Family Trustees of The Henry & Lucy Gooding Endowment along with other individual members of the Bryan Family. With the \$465,000 lead gift, the Museum of Science & History will purchase a state-of-the-art digital dome projector system and initiate plans to renovate the Alexander Brest Space Theater where the planetarium is housed.

“The lead gift from The Bryan Family Trustees of the Henry & Lucy Gooding Endowment is the perfect launch for our capital campaign to renovate the entire Alexander Brest Space Theater,” said John Magevney, chair of the MOSH board of trustees. “Their generosity and leadership sets us on the right course to reach our goal.”

Renovation plans include restoration of the theater’s 60-foot dome and interior upgrades to seating, lighting and sound. MOSH is actively fundraising to secure the remaining project balance.

The planetarium is the device that generates and projects the visual display in the theater. MOSH has selected a Konica Minolta Super MediaGlobe II digital dome projector, and when it is installed it will be the first of its kind in Florida. The new planetarium will replace the museum’s 22-year-old star projector, a vintage system that is one of only six still in use worldwide.

“The trustees of the Henry & Lucy Gooding Endowment are excited to be able to fund the new Konica Minolta Super MediaGlobe II digital dome projector,” said J.F. Bryan, IV, trustee of the Gooding Endowment board of trustees. “We think it is a real game changer for the Museum of Science & History.”

For more than 60 years, the Bryan Family has been a steward of the museum through three generations of board service and financial support. “MOSH has a long history in Jacksonville, and is an important part of the community’s cultural landscape,” said Museum Director Maria Hane. “This gift gives us an opportunity to build on the strength of the museum’s planetarium to better serve the education and entertainment needs of the community.”

The Museum of Science & History (MOSH) is located at 1025 Museum Circle near Friendship Fountain Park. MOSH, first chartered in 1941 as the Jacksonville Children’s Museum, stimulates the joy of learning for visitors of all ages in science, astronomy and the history of the region. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday – Friday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; and 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday.

###