



ANCHORAGE  
MUSEUM



STAR  
WARS

WHERE SCIENCE MEETS  
IMAGINATION

ON VIEW FEB 10 – APRIL 25, 2010

Presented by  
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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Nov. 9, 2009

Contact: Sarah Henning, 929-9231 (w), 250-3352 (c) [shenning@anchagemuseum.org](mailto:shenning@anchagemuseum.org)

### **Anchorage Museum launches *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination***

On view Feb. 10 through April 25

Technological advances will soon make our future as thrilling as the movies. The exhibition *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* explores the futuristic technologies of the *Star Wars* universe and compares them with real-life scientific progress.

*Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, opens Feb. 10 at the Anchorage Museum and is on view through April 25. Using the familiar imagery of the six *Star Wars* films as a springboard for the imagination, this exhibition explores two major themes: Getting Around and Robots and People. Minor themes include Adapting to Environments and Robots and Medicine.

This exhibition features more than 80 film props and related objects, exclusive video footage, and more than a dozen interactive exhibits including Make the Jump to Lightspeed! in a replica of the *Millennium Falcon* cockpit.

Exhibition highlights include:

- Authentic props and costumes such as Darth Vader's menacing black armor, Princess Leia's ceremonial white gown and a full-size R2-D2.
- Luke Skywalker's landspeeder from *Star Wars: A New Hope*.
- Amazing real-world robot technology, such as a personal assistant robot designed for NASA astronauts.

The Anchorage Museum is developing *Star Wars*-related programming, including comic art drawing classes and a Jedi Nights lectures series.

More than 2 million people worldwide have visited this exhibition, which was organized by the Museum of Science, Boston, and Lucasfilm Ltd.

Tickets are \$22 general admission, \$18 student/senior/military, \$10 for museum members, \$8 ages 3 to 12 and free for ages 2 and younger. Prices include general admission to the museum. Advance tickets are available starting Dec. 15 at the museum or online at [www.anchagemuseum.org](http://www.anchagemuseum.org).



*Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, was developed by the Museum of Science, Boston and Lucasfilm Ltd. © 2009 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM. All Rights Reserved. Used Under Authorization.

The Anchorage Museum is the largest museum in Alaska, and one of the top 10 most visited attractions in the state. The museum's mission is to share and connect Alaska with the world through art, history and science. Winter hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, closed Monday. Learn more online at [www.anchoragemuseum.org](http://www.anchoragemuseum.org).

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### ***Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* emphasizes hands-on learning**

On view Feb. 10 through April 25

The *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* exhibition, presented by Bose Corporation, includes a wide variety of hands-on, high-tech experiences. This exhibition features more than 80 film props and related objects, exclusive video footage, and more than a dozen interactive exhibits, including:

#### **Millennium Falcon**

Visitors can jump to lightspeed in a life-size replica of the *Millennium Falcon's* cockpit. A multimedia presentation explores what we know about our galaxy in a simulated ride to the edge of the universe. A 3-D Bose sound system brings to life the beeping cockpit instruments and the roar of passing spaceships. The five-minute ride is narrated by actor Anthony Daniels, who portrays C-3PO in the *Star Wars* films. *Millennium Falcon* capacity is four people. Anticipate a line.

#### **Robot Object Theatre**

In this immersive video experience, visitors enter a large-scale model of a Jawa sandcrawler's rusted, steel interior and meet C-3PO and real-world robotics engineer Cynthia Breazeal, director of the Robotic Life Group at MIT Media Lab. The droid and the roboticist debate the merits of R2-D2, and discuss the challenges of duplicating human traits such as mobility, perception, and cognition. A Robot Object Theatre session lasts about 15 minutes. Each session is capped at 24 visitors. Anticipate a line.

#### **Interactive displays**

- **Building Communities:** This unique virtual reality simulation lets visitors design three different communities on the Skywalker home planet of Tatooine, which has a harsh climate and scarce resources. Visitors learn if they have what it takes to survive by designing a spaceport, a moisture farm and a Jawa camp.
- **Maglev Engineering Design Lab:** Visitors can experiment with magnetic levitation propulsion, creating floating vehicles and testing them on a magnetic track.
- **Robot Engineering Design Lab:** Visitors become robot designers by choosing components and sensors for a mini robot, and then programming it to accomplish a task.

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## MEDIA ADVISORY/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

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### **Exclusive press preview for blockbuster *Star Wars* exhibition at the Anchorage Museum**

**What:** A media tour of the exhibition *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, which is on view Feb. 10 through April 25 at the Anchorage Museum.

**When:** Tuesday, Feb. 9. Time TBA.

**Where:** Anchorage Museum, 625 C St. Meet in the lobby.

Museum staff will conduct science demonstrations and operate interactive displays, and will be available for photographs and interviews.

Please be prepared for varying light conditions. Some interactive displays surround the viewer with video projections or take place in dark, confined spaces.

Journalists will not be allowed into this exhibition until it is completely installed. We apologize for any inconvenience. Those with earlier deadlines should call 929-9231 to discuss other options, including one-on-one interviews and additional press kit images.

END



**ON VIEW**

**FEB. 10 – APRIL 25, 2010**

**ANCHORAGE MUSEUM**



**DOWNLOAD THESE IMAGES AND MORE  
AT [WWW.ANCHORAGEMUSEUM.ORG](http://WWW.ANCHORAGEMUSEUM.ORG)**

Contact: Sarah Henning, public relations coordinator  
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## MEDIA IMAGE CAPTIONS

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Nov. 9, 2009

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### Media image captions for *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*

On view Feb. 10 through April 25

#### 1. Exhibit display case

Displays in *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, include more than 80 props from the *Star Wars* films, such as Princess Leia's ceremonial gown, a full-size R2-D2 and the "naked" C-3PO from *Episode I*. © 2006 Museum of Science, Boston and Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM/Dom Miguel Photography

#### 2. Millennium Falcon

In *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, visitors can jump to lightspeed in a full-size replica of the cockpit of the *Millennium Falcon* from *Episode IV*. A multimedia presentation, narrated by actor Anthony Daniels (C-3PO), explores what we know about our own galaxy in a breathtaking ride to the edge of the universe. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### 3. Exhibit Millennium Falcon cockpit

In *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, visitors can jump to lightspeed in a full-size replica of the cockpit of the *Millennium Falcon*. A multimedia presentation, narrated by actor Anthony Daniels (C-3PO), explores what we know about our own galaxy in a breathtaking ride to the edge of the universe. © 2006 Museum of Science, Boston and Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM/Dom Miguel Photography

#### 4. Anakin.podracar

In *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, one of the major themes is the future of transportation, particularly hovering vehicles. The many vehicles on display include the podracar owned by Sebulba, the major rival of the young Anakin Skywalker in a tense *Episode I* podrace scene. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### 5. Luke.Landspeeder

Luke Skywalker's landspeeder helps illustrate the transportation theme in *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* presented by Bose Corporation. The hovering landspeeder has amazing capabilities thanks to its fantasy "repulsorlift" technology – it's like having a car, helicopter, plane and spaceship all rolled into one. Real-world engineers have found ways to do all the same things, but not with one single technology. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### **6. C-3PO**

A major section of *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, focuses on robots and how people relate to them. C-3PO is used to illustrate why some human functions, like walking, are so difficult to replicate in a robot. These fictional droids are displayed alongside real-world robots, such as a “walking” tree harvester developed by John Deere. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### **7. Robots**

In *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, displays about C-3PO and R2-D2 help visitors understand how androids and robots navigate, sense and understand the world around them while communicating in increasingly sophisticated ways. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### **8. Darth Vader head**

In *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, displays explain how robotics is changing the field of medicine. Darth Vader is used as an example in the debate over whether the use of prostheses and implants blurs the line between human and robot. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### **9. Darth Vader**

In *Episode III*, Darth Vader’s limbs are severed and he’s severely burned by lava. To save him, medical droids encase him in a black armored suit, mask and respirator. Alongside Darth Vader memorabilia, the exhibition displays several real-world medical breakthroughs, including a living skin substitute and a prosthetic knee that includes a hydraulic piston, microprocessor and rechargeable lithium battery. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### **10. Luke**

The planets in the *Star Wars* films have a wide array of terrains and climates. In *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, one of the themes is how people use technology to adapt to an environment. An interactive display in the exhibition allows visitors to use virtual reality software to design dwellings to withstand various *Star Wars* environments. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### **11. Stormtroopers**

As soldiers for the Empire in the *Star Wars* films, Imperial stormtroopers are shown with modified armor for special environments. For example, on the frozen planet Hoth, stormtroopers don armor that can withstand sub-zero temperatures. Snowtrooper props illustrate how technology helps people adapt to environments in the exhibition *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation. © Lucasfilm Ltd

#### **12. Yoda**

Displays in *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, presented by Bose Corporation, include exclusive video and more than 80 props from the *Star Wars* films, such as a full-size Yoda puppet. © Lucasfilm Ltd