LIFE-SIZE MOUSETRAP EXHIBIT TO VISIT CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER

Limited engagement to include daily shows, a weeklong kids’ camp, and 21+ party

Pittsburgh, July 29, 2011—Carnegie Science Center, in partnership with The Toonseum, will bring the rollicking, nationally renowned Life-Size Mousetrap to Pittsburgh from Aug. 13–21. This kinetic sculpture is a comically involved, complicated invention, laboriously contrived to perform a simple operation. In a Rube Goldberg-like fashion, this massive contraption brings science and engineering to a whole new level with chain reactions, bowling balls, live music, and a crew dedicated to giving the audience a smashing good time.

From Aug. 13–21, visitors to the Science Center will be able to see this fun-filled spectacle come to life. Each vaudeville-style performance is a lively and interactive experience, with “clown engineers,” mischievous “mice,” a one-woman musical juggernaut called Esmerelda Strange, and lots of contraption action. This 25-ton machine offers viewers an experience in Newtonian physics on an unprecedented scale. The grand finale is a two-ton safe falling from a 30-foot crane.

Contained in a 50’x50’ outdoor space the Life-Size Mousetrap will cover a large part of the Science Center’s riverfront area. In addition to daily performances, an evening party on Aug. 13 will kick off the exhibit for those ages 21 and older. A summer camp for budding contraption constructers is offered from Aug. 15-19.

“The Life-Size Mousetrap provides viewers an opportunity to experience fun science concepts outside of the classroom, in a setting that’s flashy and extreme,” say Ann Metzger, Henry Buhl, Jr., co-director of the Science Center. “That makes it a great fit for Carnegie Science Center where we strive every day to delight and engage the young innovators of tomorrow. The Mousetrap invites kids and adults to dream big and embrace out-of-the-box thinking.”

“I have always considered the Science Center one of the hippest museums in Pittsburgh, with the laser shows, roboworld™, and so much more,” says Joe Wos, director the The Toonseum. “We are excited to partner with the Science Center to bring this amazing exhibit to Pittsburgh.”

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As part of the daily schedule, the Mousetrap performance schedule is as follows: Sunday–Friday at 11:30 am, 2 pm, and 4 pm; and Saturday, 11:30 am, 2 pm, 4 pm, and 6 pm. All daily performances are free with general admission to the Science Center.

Watch the Life-Size Mousetrap in action [here](#) or visit the official [website](#).

Media photos: Mousetrap Arial, Crew, and Logo.

Partnering with The Toonseum is a great opportunity for the Science Center to make science accessible to a diverse audience,” says Ron Baillie, Henry Buhl, Jr., co-director of the Science Center.

**Life-Size Mousetrap Big Bash!**
**Saturday, Aug. 13**
7:30–10:30 pm
**$40 advance registration/$45 at the door**

Add a [Laser Show](#) or [Omnimax](#) movie for only $5!

Kick off this SMASHING exhibit with the 'cheesiest' party in town. During its Pittsburgh debut, see this incredible spectacle, with local performers like Phat Man Dee, Schell Games, and variety circus acts, in a show that makes physics so rockin' it would make Isaac Newton drop his apples. Science, music, drinks, juggling, and a two-ton safe falling from a 30 ft. crane... you won't want to miss this.

Tickets include two evening performances of the Mousetrap, live music, three drinks, and munchies including assorted cheeses and desserts. Register [online](#) or call 412.237.3400, then press 7.

**Mousetrap Camp**
**Monday, Aug. 15–Friday, Aug. 19**
Ages 8–12

$205 members / $220 non-members

Learn more about the science of this wacky contraption! At this "maker" camp, kids will get an up-close look at the Life-Size Mousetrap and have a chance to meet the builders behind this fun-filled spectacle. Discover what forces are at work when the chain reaction is set off, explore the materials used in the Mousetrap, and then make your own contraption. Show off your creation in a mini "maker-faire" at the end of camp. Limited space available—call 412.237.1637 to register today!
About Life-Size Mousetrap

Since 1963, the classic Mouse Trap Game has been a favorite board game for both kids and adults alike. Life-Size Mousetrap, inspired by the classic board game, was conceived and constructed by Mark Perez over a 13-year period. It is a colossal physics experiment that takes Newtonian physics to a whole new level. Comprising of a group of dedicated artists, performers, and builders, the Mousetrap has traveled from coast to coast over the past several years. The crew has taken the Mousetrap to “maker-faires,” music festivals, and science centers across the country. True to the whole “maker” movement, which is steeped in engineering, art, technology, science, and innovation, the crew uses traditional concepts and materials to produce a highly unconventional result that is, at the very least, just plain fun.

Thanks to Kickstarter, a person-to-person online funding community, the Mousetrap and its crew were able to secure $20,000 to take them on a tour across the country. This funding has also helped ensure the sustainability of the efforts for the Mousetrap to go green by using an eco-friendly tour bus and recycling materials whenever possible.

Each and every crew member serves multiple roles and contributes different talents to the team. For example, the Mousetrap’s house musician, Esmerelda Strange, helps the team unload and load the truck, assists with show production, and plays original, live music during each performance.

The Life-Size Mousetrap is sponsored locally by: BOB-FM, Q92.9, Shadyside Honda, and Giant Eagle Market District.

About Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center brings the world of science alive for visitors of all ages. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center features hands-on exhibits, three live demonstration theaters, a four-story Omnimax theater, Highmark SportsWorks®, an interactive full-dome digital planetarium, a Cold War-era submarine moored on Pittsburgh’s Ohio River, the world’s largest and most comprehensive robotics exhibition, and a world-renowned model railroad display. Carnegie Science Center is located at One Allegheny Avenue on Pittsburgh’s North Shore next to Heinz Field. Visit CarnegieScienceCenter.org, or call 412.237.3400 for more information.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums dedicated to exploration through art and science: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. Annually, the museums reach more than 1.2 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.