



CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER

One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

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****MEDIA ADVISORY****

****EXCELLENT PHOTO, VIDEO, AND INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES****

BIKES: SCIENCE ON TWO WHEELS TO OPEN AT CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER ON JUNE 15

***NEW EXHIBITION EXPLORES THE HISTORY AND SCIENCE BEHIND BICYCLES OF
ALL SHAPES, SIZES, AND ORIGINS***

THE RUNDOWN:

Monday, June 10, through Wednesday, June 12 – Media are invited to arrange a “Sneak Peek” tour as the exhibit is installed and readied for the public.

**Please call 412.237.1657 to make arrangements for photo, video, and interviews.*

WHERE: Carnegie Science Center, One Allegheny Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

ABOUT BIKES: Carnegie Science Center is teaming up with The Bicycle Museum of America, Bicycle Heaven, and others, to offer a diverse [collection](#) of more than 60 historic, rare, peculiar, and all-around amazing bikes! Presented by Dollar Bank, BIKES features [science demonstrations](#) and [hands-on exhibits](#) that explore energy, forces and motion, engineering, and material science.

- Discover the evolution of the modern bicycle.
- Check out uniquely customized bikes.
- Learn about the latest technologies for sporting bikes.
- See bikes you know from popular culture.

**Activities are free with general admission*

Plus, on Saturdays through September, we'll spotlight FREE bike-related outdoor activities along the riverfront trail at our Bikes Plaza, sponsored by Peoples Gas. [Activities](#) will include a variety of presentations featuring BMX riders, unicyclists, and adaptive bikes.

EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS:

The 'Penny-Farthing'

Columbia Expert – 1885

Early bicycles had pedals attached to the front wheels, rather than attached to the back with a chain. The large front wheel allowed riders to go faster – but they were notoriously dangerous. If you hit a bump or pothole you would be catapulted over the front wheel!

-MORE-

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Pee-Wee Herman's Schwinn DX – 1985

This is one of at least 10 bikes built exclusively for the 1985 Tim Burton film *Pee-Wee's Big Adventure*, starring Paul Reubens. Pee-Wee's bike is a highly-customized 1953 Schwinn DX, featuring luggage compartments, streamers, and a tiger head sound effects speaker.

Centripetal Force Seat – Take a seat on a rotating stool, spin a hand-held bicycle tire, and see how the rotational forces move them as they turn the tire from a vertical to a horizontal position.

Roller Ramps – Roll a wheel down a series of ramps – each with a different sloping, but with the same height drop – to see Newton's Laws in effect.

Helmet Aerodynamics – Watch three shapes race through pearlized fluid to see which shape's design is the most aerodynamic, as it relates to helmet design.

Seat Wall – Tour a grid of seats from the 1800s to present day and discover the development of materials from leather to plastics to the most modern fabrics and foams.

Newton's Laws of Cycling

Use the bicycle wheel like a giant gyroscope to explore angular momentum and torque. A spinning bicycle wheel resists efforts to tilt it and point the axle in a new direction.

Switch Gears

Get an up-close look at derailleurs and the Bowden cables that allow modern bicycles to change gears. Spin the pedals and move the levers to slide the bicycle chain up and down the sprockets. Learn which gears are good for speed and which are good for climbing hills.

EXHIBIT EXPERTS:

Dennis Bateman, Director, Exhibit and Theater Experience, Carnegie Science Center

Jessica Howison, Museum Coordinator, The Bicycle Museum of America, New Bremen, OH
(available by phone at 419-629-2220, ext.3808, or email at Jessica.howison@crowns.com)

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.

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