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NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Howard M. Pollman
PHMC Marketing Director
(717) 705-8639
hpollman@state.pa.us

The State Museum Planetarium Presents *Black Holes: the Other Side of Infinity* January 6 through April 1, 2007

Harrisburg, PA - The State Museum Planetarium at 300 North Street invites visitors to explore the dark side of our universe with "*Black Holes: the Other Side of Infinity*" - a fascinating look at one of the most mysterious objects in our universe. Viewers can join in the hunt for the ultimate cosmic monsters. When scientists scan the heavens, advanced computer systems reveal the strange power of black holes. Venture beyond the point of no return to nature's ultimate no man's land.

Narrated by Academy-Award nominated actor Liam Neeson, "*Black Holes: the Other Side of Infinity*" brings the current science of black holes to the dome screen. Supported by grants from NASA's high-energy GLAST - Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope - project and the National Science Foundation, this cutting-edge full-dome production features high resolution, animated visualizations of cosmic phenomena, working with data generated by computer simulations. Audiences will experience immersive animations of the formation of the early universe, star birth and death, the collision of giant galaxies, and a simulated flight to a super-massive black hole lurking at the center of our own Milky Way Galaxy.

A visit to the Planetarium at the State Museum of Pennsylvania includes the 24 minute feature presentation as well as a 5 minute preview of the constellations and other objects visible in our current night sky. Please allow 10 minutes extra time for entering and exiting from the venue once you have arrived at the Planetarium.

Public presentations of the feature show "*Black Holes: the Other Side of Infinity*" are offered at 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Also showing on Saturdays are "*Passport to the Universe*" at 11:00am and "*Oasis in Space*" at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets must be purchased prior to the show at the Museum Information Desk on the ground floor. Tickets are \$3.50 for adults; \$3.00 for children 12 and under and Senior Citizens. Members of the Pennsylvania Heritage Society® receive a discount rate of \$2.50. Members should present their membership cards at the Museum Information Desk to receive the discount. Group rates are available, call 717-772-6997. Please be aware, the planetarium chamber remains dark throughout the production and shows may include loud noises and bright flashes. The special effects during the planetarium shows may not be appropriate for children under age 2.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania, located at 300 North Street, is one of 25 historic sites and museums on the Pennsylvania Trail of History®, administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Individuals who need special assistance should call (717) 787-6778 or the Pennsylvania TDD relay service at (800) 654-5984. For more information on "*Black Holes: the Other Side of Infinity*" as well as other planetarium shows, programs, exhibitions and events at The State Museum, visit www.statemuseumpa.org. ###

THE STATE MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA

300 North Street • Harrisburg, PA 17120-0024 • (717)787-4980 • Fax: (717)783-4558 • www.statemuseumpa.org

Administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission