



ODOT partners with Science Museum Oklahoma to showcase the science of transportation

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Transportation, engineering, science and fun will merge when the Oklahoma Department of Transportation joins forces with Science Museum Oklahoma to present a special Transportation Day, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 13, at the museum, 2100 N.E. 52nd St. in Oklahoma City.

The event will include a display of a dozen pieces of heavy construction equipment in the museum parking lot and several hands-on activity tables inside the museum, where children of all ages can explore the science behind transportation. Activities include using survey equipment, bridge building, making “asphalt cookie” snacks and a liquid nitrogen ice experiment with road salt.

ODOT’s Waterways Division also will have a take-home activity table where children can create tugboats, color and solve word search puzzles.

Tickets that day will be \$1 off the regular admission price for the first 2,500 guests.

“This year is ODOT’s centennial, and we want to offer students, teachers and parents the opportunity to join in the celebration,” said Terri Angier, chief of ODOT Media and Public Relations Division. “A lot of school groups visit Science Museum Oklahoma for their end-of-year outing, so we thought it would be an excellent time to let them experience firsthand some aspects of the gratifying careers that can come from studying science and engineering.”

Construction industry partners C.L. Boyd and Warren CAT are providing the heavy machinery, such as road graders and backhoes, and guests will be able to ask questions of representatives and experience the equipment up close and personal.

Information about careers with ODOT also will be available.

In addition to partnering with ODOT for the special Transportation Day, SMO plans to take a presentation to schools and libraries across the state as part of their Outreach program on transportation science and engineering. The program will begin with a brief history of ODOT and Oklahoma transportation and include topics such as life on Route 66 and the building of the major thoroughfares in Oklahoma. The program is available through the end of the year.

“We are excited to partner with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. ODOT Day is going to be a blast for our guests and a fun opportunity to be wowed by the big machines and the big science behind transportation,” said Suzette Ellison, vice president of programs and interpretation. “The opportunity to take this partnership on the road and share science literacy beyond the museum walls through community outreaches and education workshops is incredible.”

For general information on Transportation Day and the Outreach program, Science Museum Oklahoma guests can visit www.sciencemuseumok.org or call 405-602-6664. Group reservations for ODOT Transportation Day can be made by calling Museum reservations at 405-602-3760.

- www.okladot.state.ok.us -

(Editors and News Directors: For more information, call the ODOT Media and Public Relations Division at 405-521-6000 or Alex Mattison, SMO Communications coordinator, at 405-501-4998.)

INFORMATION RELEASE

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MEDIA & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION
200 N.E. 21ST ST. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105-3204 PHONE 405-521-6000

