



RIVERSIDE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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RACE: ARE WE SO DIFFERENT?

Exhibit explores the concept of race scientifically, historically, and culturally

Riverside, CA –Riverside Metropolitan Museum presents its newest exhibition, “*RACE: Are We So Different?*” set to open June 3 during Riverside Arts Walk at 6 pm and will be on display through September 26, 2010. RACE, which is a traveling exhibition developed by the American Anthropological Association in collaboration with the Science Museum of Minnesota, tells the stories of race from biological, cultural, and historical points of view. Race is sponsored by National Presenter, Best Buy Children’s Foundation and by Local Presenter, University of California, Riverside.

Using historical artifacts, photographs, multimedia presentations, and interactive activities, the exhibit allows visitors to think about race in a different light, “The RACE exhibit encourages visitors to understand race and racism as more than a black-and-white issue, but as an issue that affects each of us,” said Dr. Yolanda Moses, Co-Chair of the RACE Project Advisory Group and Professor of Anthropology at University of Riverside, California. The exhibit addresses how the concept of race was created, how it differs from human variation, and how race and racism play a role in our everyday lives.

The three major themes of the exhibit are:

- **Science:** Discover that human beings are more alike than any other living species, and no one gene or set of genes can support the idea of race.
- **History:** Ideas about race have been around for hundreds of years, and they have changed over time. Throughout American history, economic interests, popular culture, science, politics and the struggle for power have played a role in shaping our understanding of race.
- **Everyday experience:** Though race may not be a real biological concept, it certainly is real both socially and culturally. Explore the personal experience of race in our schools, neighborhoods, health care systems, sports and entertainment industries, and more.

The *RACE* exhibit is part of a larger public education project from American Anthropological Association funded by the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation. The project is intended to inform and shape the national dialogue about race. In addition to the exhibit, the initiative includes a Web site, educational materials, and conferences designed to share research and information with the public. *RACE* premiered Jan. 10, 2007 at the Science Museum of Minnesota. After closing there in May of that year, the exhibit embarked on a tour of museums and science centers across the country.

The Riverside Metropolitan Museum is located at 3580 Mission Inn Avenue in downtown Riverside. The museum is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9 am – 5 pm; Thursday 9 am – 9 pm; Saturday 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday 11 am – 5 pm; closed on Monday. Admission is free.

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Calendar Editors Please Note:

What: *RACE: Are We So Different?*

Where: Riverside Metropolitan Museum

When: Exhibition: June 3 – September 26, 2010
Arts Walk Reception: June 3, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Cost: Free

Public Information: Riverside Metropolitan Museum, 3580 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA 92501, (951) 826-5273, www.riversideca.gov/museum, Parking validation available at Parking Garage 1 (located on Orange Street between Mission Inn Ave. and University Ave.) The museum is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9 am – 5 pm; Thursday 9 am – 9 pm; Saturday 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday 11 am – 5 pm; closed on Monday.