

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY PRESENTS ALL DAY LATIN FESTIVAL SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2009

*Timed to celebrate the opening of the new exhibition **Visible Vault: Treasures from Ancient Latin America**, the day includes craft workshops, dance and features performers such as Grammy-winning percussionist **Poncho Sanchez***

- WHAT** NHM will celebrate the completion of **Visible Vault: Treasures from Ancient Latin America**—a dramatic new re-installation of one of the Museum's most beloved collections—with a day-long **Latin Celebration** that presents a variety of workshops, dance and musical performances, culminating in a featured live set by the world-renowned **Poncho Sanchez Latin Jazz Band**.
- Visible Vault** is a new behind-the-scenes exhibition that provides visitors the experience of exploring archeological collections ordinarily hidden from public view. The immersive, vault-like space exhibits more than 700 objects from the storied ancient civilizations of the Americas, including pieces from the Southwest United States, Mexico, Central America and South America.
- WHEN** **Saturday, January 24, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**
- Throughout the day:** **Hands-on workshops:** Make your own *Lucha Libre* wrestling mask; create decorations for special occasions using the *Papel Picado* paper-cutting method, or learn the process of *Amate* and create your own spirit figure. Other crafts include weaving, rattle making and gold foil.
- 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.** **Inca Dance Performances:** The Peruvian dance ensemble **INCA** researches, preserves and presents Peru's rich multi-cultural heritage of ethnic and folkloric music, songs and dance tradition. INCA will perform music and dance from the several different regions of the Amazon jungle and Peru.
- 3 p.m.** **Poncho Sanchez Latin Jazz Band:** World-renowned *conguero* (conga player) and singer Poncho Sanchez fuses his Latin Jazz style with Afro-cuban rhythms, bebop Jazz and salsa influences. He is widely respected as one of the top American percussionists of our time. His Grammy-winning nine-piece ensemble will perform in the Museum's iconic African Mammal Hall.
- WHERE** The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is located at 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles. The Museum is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.nhm.org or call (213) 763-DINO for more info.
- ADMISSION** Admission is free for Museum members, \$9 for adults, and \$6.50 for children

About the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County serves more than one million families and visitors annually, and is a national leader in research, exhibitions and education. The Museum was the first cultural institution in Los Angeles to open its doors to the public in 1913 and has amassed one of the world's most extensive and valuable collections of natural and cultural history—with more than 35 million objects, some as old as 4.5 billion years.