FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 18, 2014

ALDEN B. DOW MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND ART presents

Leonardo da Vinci: Man-Inventor-Artist-Genius

Experience genius and be inspired by one of history’s greatest artists, scientists and inventors!

On exhibit January 24 – May 17, 2015

ON-LINE PRESS KIT WITH HIGH-RESOLUTION IMAGES AT
www.mcfta.org/davincipress

MIDLAND, MI – On April 15, 1452, a man was born who changed the world like no one before: Leonardo da Vinci. Artist, sculptor, architect, art historian, natural scientist, musician, writer and inventor. Discover one of the few geniuses in the history of mankind!


Produced by the Italian artisan family who has been building the inventions to Leonardo’s specifications for two centuries, the models include interactive inventions and machines from the four codices: flight, civil machines, hydraulics and engineering; and military machines. The craftsmanship and beauty of the materials used by Leonardo are represented just as they were in the 15th century.

Complementing the invention models are made-to-scale replicas of all of Leonardo’s masterpiece paintings together with films of his life, and recorded music composed by Leonardo. Through this exhibition, museum goers will have the rare opportunity of seeing Leonardo’s paintings together in the same place. Additionally, they will have the pleasure of considering how the masterpieces relate to the artist’s love of science and nature.

“Leonardo da Vinci was one of the greatest geniuses the world has ever known,” remarks B.B. Winslow, Museum Director. “More than 500 years ago, he designed flying machines, robots, submarines, underwater breathing gear and solar-powered industries; laid most of the groundwork for the artificial heart valve; and created some of the greatest paintings in the history of art. With little formal education, his brilliance lay in his ability to master different subjects and fuse them together through observation, insight and inspiration.”

The exhibition is open to the public January 24, 2015, through May 17, 2015. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; special hours during Spring Break (check the website). Admission is $12 for adults; $8 for ages 4 to 14; free for ABD Museum members and ASTC members. Visit www.mcfta.org/leonardo for exhibition hours and events.
Exhibition tour organized by Event Marketing Service GmbH (EMS), Vienna, and distributed by Exhibits Development Group (EDG), USA. Sponsored locally by The Dow Chemical Company; Dow Corning Corporation; Catholic Federal Credit Union; Great Lakes Loons, and Associated Builders and Contractors (Greater Michigan Chapter). Print sponsor Quick Reliable Printing. Media sponsors WNEM TV5; 96.1 WHNN; WCMU Public Broadcasting and 102.5 WIOG.

Exhibition Highlights:

- Over 60 made-to-scale machines and models built to Leonardo’s specifications, exhibiting craftsmanship just as it was in the 15th century. Many offering hands-on learning for young and old.
- View full-scale replicas of all 23 of Leonardo’s known masterpiece paintings – including the Mona Lisa – all in one place! (due to its size, public viewing of The Last Supper is available on January 24, February 1 & 8 only.)
- Computer simulation stations for visitors of all ages to explore his inventions.
- An interactive time room and documentary film chronicling the major historical and personal events of Leonardo’s lifetime.
- The chance to hear Leonardo’s musical compositions – for the first time ever!

Other Exhibitions in the Galleries: January 17 – April 19, 2015

The Stations of the Cross: Gib Singleton Sculpture
The renowned American sculptor’s interpretation of the last hours of Christ’s life is a spiritual and emotional art experience. His religious works are in the collection of the Vatican Museum, and his bronze crucifix adorned the world-famous crosier carried by both Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI. 
*On generous loan from the Hutchison Family Foundation*

Crosses: The Paintings of Craig Keith Antrim
Contemporary paintings explore the theme of the cross symbolizing the intersection of the spiritual and material planes of existence ... the symbol that represents the human condition so well.

Italian Master Drawings: Selections from The Tamassy Collection of Northwood University
Over 20 drawings from the 14th – 19th centuries depicting biblical themes.

Studio School Faculty Exhibition
On display are the creative visions of the professional artists who teach classes at our Studio School.

*Leonardo da Vinci* Special Events

**Interpreting The Last Supper**
**January 24 • 6 – 7 pm**
A true-to-scale replica of the masterpiece will be on our stage as Museum Director B.B. Winslow leads an informative analysis of this iconic painting. Seating is limited.
Tickets: $15 (includes hors d’oeuvres, wine, soft drinks, and access to the Museum galleries)

**Viewings of Leonardo da Vinci’s The Last Supper**
**February 1 & 8 • 2 pm**
Due to its size, there will be limited public viewings of this masterpiece. Ticket includes an informative 30-minute analysis by Museum Director B.B. Winslow.
Tickets: $5 (does not include optional Museum entry)
Magic of Electricity
February 5, March 5, April 2 & May 7 • 5 – 7 pm
A guided exploration of the world of static electricity using our van de Graaff generator. FREE with Museum admission. **Sponsored by Consumers Energy**

Bubble-ology
February 7 • 1 pm & 2:15 pm
“Bubble-ologist” Bubbleman Ron creates amazing bubbles of all shapes, sizes & configurations. Ages 4 and up. Tickets: $8 | $5 ABDM members **Sponsored by Arbury Insurance Agency**

Family Night at the Museum
February 28 • 5 – 9 pm
Spend family time in the Museum, including a tour through the Leonardo da Vinci exhibition, building a small robot, watching the movie Meet the Robinsons – and more! Tickets: $15 Adults | $12 Children | Family 4-pack $50 **Sponsored by Arbury Insurance Agency**

Paper Submarine Workshops
March 7 • 10 – 11 am & March 30 • 10 – 11 am & 2 – 3 pm
Make and take a paper model of Leonardo’s submarine. For ages 8 and up; ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.
Tickets: $5 per project

Scout Days
Mar 5, 12, 19 & 26 • 4 – 8 pm
Experience the genius of Leonardo as a troop or family!
Tickets: $5 for Scouts in uniform (includes Museum souvenir patch) | $9 per adult | $6 per non-Scout sibling, Must pre-register with museumtours@mcfta.org in order to receive special pricing and patch.

The Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art (ABDM) provides a forum to engage the people of mid-Michigan in the constructive and creative expressions found in science and in art. Exhibitions in the Museum, classes at the Museum School, multiple outreach programs, a permanent collection and various special events are all components in the ABDM programming.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, Center Stage Choirs, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX: MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, and Midland Symphony Orchestra. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at [www.mcfta.org](http://www.mcfta.org).

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