Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History Announces Extended Evening Hours for the Spring/Summer

The Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History will extend its hours this spring and summer. Beginning Friday, March 10 through May 20, the museum will extend its hours on Fridays and Saturdays to 7:30 p.m. From Friday, May 26 through Sunday, Sept. 3, the museum will remain open from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. every day. Extended hours will be in effect except when special museum events are scheduled. Admission to the museum is free.

The special spring and summer hours will enable visitors to further enjoy the museum’s world famous exhibitions, including the Dinosaur Hall, African Voices, the Mammal Hall, the O. Orkin Insect Zoo and the National Gem Collection, home to the renowned Hope Diamond.

The Johnson IMAX Theater, the Atrium Café and the museum’s retail shops, including the Gems and Minerals Store and the Mammal Hall Store also will remain open until 7:30 p.m. On Friday nights visitors will be able to celebrate the week’s end with live music, fine dining and large-format films at the Smithsonian Jazz Café and Johnson IMAX Theater. The full-service cash bar opens at 5:30 p.m. A changing roster of nationally recognized jazz musicians is featured from 6 to 10 p.m. in the Atrium Café, where an a la carte menu features seasonal specialties. For more information about the jazz performance schedule, visit www.mnh.si.edu/jazz or call (202) 633-0814. Admission is $10. For more information about IMAX films and tickets visit www.si.edu/imax.

This spring the Natural History Museum will feature new exhibitions, including “Lewis and Clark: The National Bicentennial Exhibition” (May 12 through Sept. 10), “Wondrous Cold: An Antarctic Journey” (May 18 through Sept. 4) and “Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs of Tibet, China, and Mongolia 1921-1925” (May 22 through Sept. 30).