



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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7th Annual Great Lakes Bat Festival

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI – The Cranbrook Institute of Science is the site for this year’s Great Lakes Bat Festival August 1st – 2nd, hosted by the Organization for Bat Conservation.

Janell Cannon, award-winning author of the book “Stellaluna,” will kick off the bat festival on Friday August 1st at 7 PM. Ms. Cannon will present a humorous and heartwarming program about her books and love for bats. Pre-registration and tickets are required. Thanks to General Motors for funding this evening with Janell Cannon!

Saturday, August 2nd, 2008 from 10 AM to 6 PM Events

See live bats from around the world, including Michigan’s insect-eating bats, South American leaf-nosed bats, and giant fruit bats. Additional events include kids’ activities, live animal programs, a gift store, educational exhibits, and more. “Bats: Myths and Mysteries” live bat exhibit will be open at the Institute.

6 PM to 9 PM: Family BBQ and live music. “Musical Mark” will play songs from his new CD about bats. His style of performing is fun, educational, and entertaining.

9 PM to 11 PM: Bat researchers will put up a giant net to catch local bats. Bat detection devices, research techniques, and light-tagging will be demonstrated.

Speakers: Fiona Reid (Artist & Author), Dr. John Whitaker, Jr. (Indiana State University), Dr. Al Kurta (Eastern Michigan University), Dr. Tim Carter (Ball State University), Rob Mies (Organization for Bat Conservation), Bill Scullon (Michigan Department of Natural Resources), Mike Frayer (Milwaukee County Zoo), Dawn Vezina (Organization for Bat Conservation), David Kugler (Critter Catchers, Inc.), Dawn Fleishaus (Milwaukee County Zoo).

About The Organization for Bat Conservation

The Organization for Bat Conservation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of bats and their habit through ecological research, educational programs, and collaborative conservation efforts. The Organization has the largest grass-roots bat conservation educational project in the United States. Each year, over 250,000 people attend a live bat program or visit the Bat Zone at Cranbrook Institute of Science. Collaborative conservation projects include research in North America, protection on Mauritius Island, education on the Island of Rodrigues, and teacher training in Malaysia. Visit OBC on the Web at <http://www.batconservation.org>.

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