



MUSEUM INSIDER

Friends of CMNH is celebrating its 81st birthday this year. The Women's Committee was established in 1940 with the purpose of promoting the Museum within the community while helping the institution prosper through fundraising and volunteer efforts. Over the years, the Women's Committee has sponsored wonderful educational programs and played a critical role in the Museum's success. Last year, a committee decided that changing the group's name to "Friends of CMNH" would more fully reflect its relationship to the Museum. I am deeply grateful for the establishment of this group, which has so positively shaped the Museum through its activities—from securing funding to supporting popu-

My job now is to try and help people understand every one of us makes a difference. And cumulatively, wise choices in how we act each day can begin to change the world.

—Jane Goodall

As a 100-year-old institution, the Museum owes its continued growth to decades of leaders committed to our mission. One of our most dedicated groups of supporters is Friends of CMNH, formerly called the Women's Committee.

der Dancing Lights: A Trail Veterinarian's Mission to Care for the Dogs of the Iditarod, Dr. Morgan will share his stories and photos, plus images by Jeff Schultz, the official Iditarod photographer. Register for this special online program to learn all about tending to the 300+ dogs that run the race every year.

Finally, the Museum is participating in a national survey of museum-goers, sponsored by the American Alliance of Museums, to learn how we can better support and engage audiences in 2021. The results will help us serve our communities more effectively in the months ahead. Please consider taking this survey to share your thoughts and have an opportunity to win one of four \$100 Amazon gift cards.

This week, know that each of us can make a difference.

Sincerely,
Sonia M. Winner
Sonia M. Winner
President & CEO

1 Wade Oval Drive, University Circle,
Cleveland, Ohio 44106



lar events like the Explorer Lecture Series and Women in Science Day. If you are interested in becoming a member of Friends of CMNH, please visit its webpage to learn more.

In the transformed Museum, our new Visitor Hall will feature floor-to-ceiling glass walls that admit natural light. It will also be free to the public, sharing eight of the Museum's signature specimens with the community. On the right-hand side of the above rendering, you can see a "school of Dunk," or group of Dunkleosteus terrelli. The Museum holds the world's

best-preserved specimens of this prehistoric predator, recently named Ohio's state fossil fish. Dunkleosteus ruled the shallow sea that covered Ohio 360 million years ago, during the Devonian Period. A home in the future Visitor Hall will put the spotlight on this ferocious fish.

This week, as we continue honoring Museum icons, we feature one of the more dramatic displays in the Sears Hall of Human Ecology. Depicting a moment of action that would be difficult to capture in real life, the display shows a leopard with its paw about to graze the leg of its catch—a springbok. The African leopard (*Panthera pardus pardus*) is a nocturnal species, primarily hunting its prey at night. Its coloring and pattern allow it to blend in with its surroundings. Leopards are fierce but nimble hunters, capable of sprinting at high speeds. They stalk and ambush their unsuspecting prey, making powerful use of their forelegs, claws, jaws, and teeth.

The springbok (*Antidorcas*

marsupialis) is a species of antelope that browses the low shrubs of the open, dry savannas of southern Africa. Though springboks are hunted by many predators, their keen senses of hearing and smell and wide field of vision help them evade danger. They also live in large herds, which provide safety in numbers. Springboks are extremely agile—running at speeds of up to 50 mph and leaping as high as 12 feet in the air. The next time you visit the Museum, stop by Sears Hall to admire this arresting showdown between predator and prey.

Balto's Birthday Bash is in full swing with two upcoming DiscoverE programs. Dogs of the Iditarod Trail, taking place on Wednesday, March 24, at 6:30pm, will be co-hosted by the Iditarod Trail Race Headquarters and Museum. Learn all about the historical Serum Run and today's Iditarod from a panel of experts, including a four-time Iditarod champion and this year's Iditarod Teacher on the Trail. Register today for this free virtual event.

Our DiscoverE program on Friday, March 27, at 7pm will feature Dr. Lee Morgan, an Iditarod Trail veterinarian since 2012. In Running Un-

