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## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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## MIDLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF THE SOUTHWEST COME TOGETHER TO BRING DINO-SIZED EXHIBITION TO MIDLAND FOR ITS NORTH AMERICAN DEBUT

*Midland, Texas* – Summer 2015 will be an exciting time for the Midland County Public Library and the Museum of the Southwest as they come together to host an internationally-travelling exhibition, ***Permian Monsters: Life before the Dinosaurs***. The exhibition will be on view starting May 1 and ending July 26 and will be divided between two spaces—the Durham Children’s Museum at the Museum of the Southwest and the Centennial Branch of the Midland County Public Library. Media and the public is invited to a press conference on Wednesday, November 12 at 3 p.m. in the Blakemore Planetarium to learn more about the exhibition and partnership. Dinosaur-themed kids’ activities will also be available from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Travelling to Midland from Australia, this will be the first time this exhibition has ever been displayed on US soil. Viewers will step back in time 290 million years when bizarre-looking animals dominated life on land and sea, and find out about the greatest extinction the world has ever seen. This unique exhibition brings the past back to life with an amazing collection of fossilized skeletons and full-size life models of the animals that ruled the world millions of years before the age of dinosaurs, in a time known as the Permian.

***Permian Monsters*** blends art and science with a collection of new artwork which offers a glimpse back in time through the eyes of award winning paleo-artist Julius Csotonyi. Artwork includes fossilized skeletons and reconstructed models of the amazing but bizarre creatures that dominated land and sea.

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Directed by the Texas Library Associations’ 2014 Librarian of the Year, the **Midland County Public Library** system defines mid-size library excellence. The library system has no late fines, and is the only system in the state of Texas to transition to a fine-less borrowing policy. The library system contains the largest Genealogical research collection in Texas west of I-35, and the only free full service audio and visual recording studio in West Texas. The Centennial Library is the winner of the American Library Association and International

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Interior Design Associations' bi-annual Interior Design award for Public Libraries over 30,000 square feet, and is distinguished as the "tech-iest" library in Texas. Technological components in the Centennial Library are complemented by an exhibit space that has premiered numerous Texas, United States and International exhibits, and broken nationally touring exhibit attendance records.

The **Museum of the Southwest** is a nonprofit organization located in Midland, Texas. *The Museum of the Southwest inspires discovery, interaction and exploration of art, science, culture and history, enriching the lives of people of all ages.* Founded in 1965 and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums since 1992, the Museum is comprised of the Juliette and Fred Turner, Jr. Memorial Art Gallery, the Fredda Turner Durham Children's Museum, the state-of-the-art Marian Blakemore Planetarium and an outdoor Sculpture Garden. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, and closed Monday. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids under 12 and free for kids 2 and under. For more information on the Museum, membership and upcoming exhibitions, programs and events, visit [MuseumSW.org](http://MuseumSW.org), call 432.683.2882 or send an email to [info@MuseumSW.org](mailto:info@MuseumSW.org).

The mission of the **Midland, Texas Convention & Visitors Bureau** (CVB) is to encourage economic growth by developing, promoting, enhancing and supporting Midland as a vibrant visitor destination. For more information on the Midland CVB, or to request a free Midland Experience Guide and Map, call (800) 624-6435 or visit [www.VisitMidlandTexas.com](http://www.VisitMidlandTexas.com).

The above information has been provided by the Museum of the Southwest and distributed by the Midland Convention & Visitors Bureau.

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*Images and press releases can be found online at [MuseumSW.org/press](http://MuseumSW.org/press). For more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact Chelsea Dey at [432.683.2882 x 304](tel:432.683.2882) or [cdey@MuseumSW.org](mailto:cdey@MuseumSW.org).*