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## **GET MOVING WITH *NOTION OF MOTION*, A NEW EXHIBIT AT THE FORT WORTH MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND HISTORY**

*Fort Worth, Texas* -- Motion pervades nature. Everything on the earth experiences motion, from people and plants to spinning tops and moving pictures. *Notion of Motion*, a new exhibit with interactive components, opens in the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History's *ExploraZone* gallery Friday, Oct. 6, 2006 and gets to the heart of motion and its centrality.

The exhibit's components include:

*A Gravity Well*: Roll marbles, steel balls or even coins around the Gravity Well and watch them move like planets orbiting the sun, just as Johannes Kepler predicted.

*Falling Magnets*: Spin the disk and magnets move in a circular dance. Depending on how fast or slow the disk is spun, the dance changes. Why? Currents drive the magnets upward, but gravity pulls them downward – leaving them in a floating orbit.

*Pendulum Snake*: Watch 10 pendula of different lengths begin swinging together, then become complex and out of phase, seemingly swinging at random. But, lo and behold, see them come back together, swinging in unison, because of the carefully calibrated length of their strings.

*Coupled Pendulum*: Observe the energy of one pendulum move gradually to the other and back again in an awe-inspiring display of resonant frequency.

*Rope Squirter*: See this dancing rope activated by a pulley that is attached to a spinning motor. What's important is the string, which becomes a wild dancing loop, twisting itself and surprising visitors as they try to capture it.

*Aether Zoetrope*: Find out about illusions of motion. The *Zoetrope* was invented in the mid 1800s, long before the development of the movie camera and animated cartoons. It was an early way to derive motion from still pictures, by turning a crank, activating a spinning cylinder and looking through slits to see an image “move.” The illusion of spinning motion comes from the inherent persistence of vision. Each image lingers in our eyes and brains long enough to merge with the next.

*Talking in Circles*: Spin a large goblet and suddenly two people appear and seem to be talking. Stop it and there’s nothing there. How is it that you perceive a motion that isn’t there? Find out in *Talking in Circles*!

Admittance to *Notion of Motion* is included with regular Museum exhibit admission: \$8 for adults; \$7 for children 3-12 and seniors 60 and older.

### ***About the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History***

Dedicated to lifelong learning and anchored by its rich collections, the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History engages its diverse community through creative, vibrant programs and exhibits interpreting science and the stories of Texas and the Southwest.

The Museum features traveling exhibits and four core exhibit galleries, including DinoDig® and KIDSPACE®; the Noble Planetarium, Museum School®; and the Omni Theater, an IMAX dome seven stories high. Since the mid-1980s, the Museum annually welcomes more than 800,000 visitors, making it one of the most popular cultural attractions in North Texas.

The Museum is located at 1501 Montgomery Street in the Cultural District of Fort Worth, Texas. For more information, please call 817-255-9300 or visit [www.fortworthmuseum.org](http://www.fortworthmuseum.org).

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