

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RE: PPHM ACQUIRES T-REX SKULL

CANYON, TEXAS— PPHM is proud to announce the acquisition of a *Tyrannosaurus rex* skull, a landmark addition to the paleontology collection. The massive skull, at over four feet long, sports a mouth full of banana-sized bone-crushing teeth evolved to penetrate the most formidable defenses and bring a swift, merciful end to its prey. This specimen was excavated from the Hell Creek formation in Montana. The original specimen is on display at the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture.

The skull now residing at PPHM is a cast of a the massive 66-million-year-old find, nicknamed the “Tufts-Love Rex” after the two volunteers who discovered it in 2015. It is one of approximately 15 known *T. rex* skulls in the world. The PPHM skull measures 4 feet long by 3 feet wide. Based on this size, paleontologists estimate this dinosaur is about 85% the size of the largest *T. rex* found to-date, and one of the most complete specimens. At the hips, the *T. rex* stood 15- to 20-feet-tall and was as long as a school bus from tail to head, more than 40 feet in length.

Visitors will be able to view the *T. rex* skull at PPHM’s annual Dino Day on Oct. 5. Activities will be held museum wide from 2-5pm, but a \$5 discounted admission all day (9am to 5pm) encourages future paleontologists to spend the day exploring PPHM’s *Paleontology/Geology* exhibit before activities begin.

From kids to kids-at-heart, everyone will enjoy this event that celebrates October as Archaeology Month.

For more information about the event, contact Honnah Taylor at htaylor@wtamu.edu or (806) 651-2235. Admission is \$5 for everyone, all day and includes all activities.

ABOUT PPHM

Located on the campus of West Texas A&M University, the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum is the largest history museum in Texas, with more than 285,000 square feet—and over two million artifacts—dedicated to preserving this area’s past. PPHM offers visitors a

chance to step into panhandle history with special exhibits, a permanent collection, Pioneer Town, educational tours and special events. For more information about PPHM please visit www.panhandleplains.org.