



For immediate release
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**Perfect Start to the Ultimate Summer
at the
Science Museum of Virginia**

RICHMOND — Summer is right around the corner and all you can think about is celebrating your vacation. You're ready to kick back with some great music, good friends, lazy days at the beach and good times swimming, surfing, playing volleyball or building sand castles. This summer, you don't even have to leave Richmond to go the beach, because the Beach has come to you at the Science Museum of Virginia. Join us for the **Ultimate Summer Kickoff, Saturday, June 19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**



“**Ultimate Summer Kickoff** is a giant party for the whole family and this year we're taking you to the beach,” says Science Museum of Virginia Director and CEO Richard Conti. “There is no better place to have a fun time and learn something at the same time in our cool new exhibit **Beach Science: It's a Shore Thing**, along with two new IMAX[®] films about surf and the sea. And if that isn't enough, we have a contest that will send one lucky family to Hawaii!”

Neptune points the way to **Beach Science: It's a Shore Thing** where a working lighthouse takes center stage. The revolving light at the top will catch your eye before you reach the exhibit. If the lighthouse looks familiar, it's because it is modeled after one of Virginia's lighthouses — the Old Point Comfort lighthouse near Fort Monroe. Check out sand from different beaches and a live critter tank. Visit the lifeguard station for the latest in beach weather and rip currents. Stroll along the boardwalk where you find out how to pick the sunscreen with the right SPF for you. Giggle at the revealing history of swimsuits and uncover new activities for the entire family to enjoy at the beach.

Outside at **Ultimate Summer Kickoff**, zoom down a giant inflated slide. Catch a wave without water on an outdoor surf simulator (\$). Make a mini-greenhouse with seedlings to grow at home. There are more than 25 activities to experience so everywhere you look there is something fun to see and do. Cool down with an ice cream cone or frozen fruit treat on a stick.

Join the search for the perfect wave in the IMAX film **The Ultimate Wave Tahiti**. Meet nine-time world surfing champion Kelly Slater on a surfing quest in the island paradise of Tahiti and French Polynesia, home to some of the world's most challenging surfing and to astounding coral reef ecosystems. For an underwater perspective, dive into **Deep Sea**. You're in for an up-close encounter with some of the most strange and exotic creatures on the planet.

Still dreaming of a perfect Hawaii vacation or another cool beach getaway? Solve a Sudoku puzzle in the current issue of Quest or the Richmond Times-Dispatch, June 7-11. Look for clues on Facebook, via Twitter or in the Richmond Times-Dispatch, June 7-11. Enter your completed puzzle at the **Ultimate Summer Kickoff** before 2 p.m. The drawing is at 3.



Ultimate Summer Kickoff admission is \$12 or free for museum members. Tickets to **Ultimate Summer Kickoff** and a film in the IMAX® DOME are \$15. For information call 804-864-1400, 800-659-1727 or visit www.smv.org. The Science Museum is located at 2500 West Broad Street.

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