In A.D. 79, Pompeii was frozen in time by the catastrophic eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, burying everything in its path for more than 1,700 years until it was rediscovered in the 1700s. The same ash and debris from Vesuvius’s unpredicted eruption that destroyed the city, is also the same thing that preserved it.

A Day in Pompeii is a collection of more than 250 priceless ancient artifacts from the Roman city of Pompeii and its surrounding areas. It opens at Cincinnati Museum Center in the large 15,000-square-foot exhibition hall on March 2 and will run through August 12, 2012.

Artifacts include wall-sized frescos, gold jewelry, marble and bronze statuary, gold coins and other dazzling examples of ancient Roman artistry. Other artifacts from frying pans, fishhooks, and merchants’ scales to ceramics, oil lamps, graffiti stones and carbonized bread capture aspects of daily life. Body casts of the victims eerily preserved in their final moments are a highlight of the exhibition.

At interactive stations, visitors explore the geology of volcanoes, the art of mosaics, the science of archaeology and ancient construction techniques. Additional Museum Center programming enhances the Pompeii experience.

Pompeii appeals to a variety of audiences from history buffs to travelers and art, drama and science enthusiasts to school groups and families.

Pompeii’s archaeological treasures rarely leave Italy, and this national touring exhibit marks the first time that these rare treasures will come to the region. Cincinnati Museum Center is the only stop in the Midwest. A Day in Pompeii has been on display at Discovery Times Square in New York where it opened in March 2011, it opened at the Museum of Science in Boston in October 2011 and will continue to Denver Museum of Nature & Science after leaving Cincinnati.

A Day in Pompeii is presented in partnership with Soprintendenza Speciale per i Beni Archeologici di Napoli e Pompei (SANP), which selected and prepared the artifacts. SANP is responsible for safeguarding and enhancing the cultural heritage of Pompeii and other locations in the Vesuvian area.

Associate Sponsors: Kroger, Frisch's

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PRICING:
Adult - $19.50; Children (13 and younger) - $12.50; Senior - $17.50
Cincinnati Museum Center Members: Adult - $12.50; Children - $8.50