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MEDIA ALERT: PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Just in time for Halloween, Science Museum of Minnesota's mummy to undergo CT scan at St. Paul Children's Hospital

- What:** CT scanning of the Science Museum of Minnesota's Egyptian mummy
- When:** Friday, October 29, 1 p.m.
- Where:** Children's Hospital, St. Paul
Radiology Department
345 Smith Avenue North, Downtown St. Paul
(Media: Please meet a media relations representative in the 1st floor lobby.)
- Media RSVP:** Sarah Imholte, (651) 221-9412, simholte@smm.org
Justin Theodotou, (952) 220-0604, justin.theodotou@childrensmn.org
- Background:** Donated to the museum in 1925 by private collectors Mr. and Mrs. Simon P. Crosby, the mummy has long been a highlight for Science Museum visitors. Scans and other radiographic studies in 1983 revealed that all internal organs except the heart had been removed during the mummification process, a common practice that confirms the mummy's authenticity. The results also supported the museum's theory that the mummy was probably a priest (evidence pointed to a shaven head, callused feet of a man who walked barefoot and hands that showed no signs of extensive manual labor) who lived during the 18th Dynasty. The x-rays and interpretation from the 1983 scan are currently on display in the Science Museum's Collections Gallery.
- Using today's modern imaging present at Children's Hospital, the museum hopes to come away with a 3D model of the mummy's inner workings and new clues that reveal more details about his life, a more precise age and cause of death. Science Museum archaeology and exhibit development staff will develop new interpretative tools based on the scan's result that will make their debut in the months leading up to the February 18 opening of the *Tutankhamun: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs* exhibition.
- Details:** Under the guidance of St. Paul Radiology's Dr. David Cox, staff at Children's Hospital in downtown St. Paul will be conducting a CT scan of the Science Museum of Minnesota's mummy. ***Photography is permitted during the set-up for the scan as the mummy is prepped and placed in the scanner by Science Museum conservation staff.***
- Available for Interview:** Dr. Ed Fleming, Curator of Archaeology, Science Museum of Minnesota
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