News from.....

Congressman Danny K. Davis

7th Congressional District of Illinois

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, April 14, 2009

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MEDIA ALERT

Chicago, IL- On April 14, 2009, Congressman Danny K. Davis (D-IL) will join students from Beasley Magnet Academy, Dvorak Technology Academy, Spencer Math & Science Academy, and May Elementary School as they tour the Museum of Science and Industry, Adler Planetarium and the Shedd Aquarium, Thursday, April 16, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to highlight the need for increased Federal funding for science education.

At each stop, students will take part in programs and hands-on activities designed to spark their curiosity and get them excited about science.

Museum of Science and Industry **9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

Students will come onstage in a funny and engaging play called "Poop Happens" to help demonstrate how your body breaks down food to get the nutrients it needs; learn about the effect of carbon dioxide on the Earth's atmosphere in the stunning *Earth Revealed* exhibit; and see how chemistry plays a part in our lives in the big chemistry show "Bangs, Flashes and Fire" featured in the Museum's Rotunda.

Adler Planetarium **10:40 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

Students will experience explosive collisions, witness the birth of our Moon and take a soaring journey into space like no other in ***Cosmic Collisions***, the Adler's popular space show. Narrated by Academy Award-winner Robert Redford, ***Cosmic Collisions*** is shown on an all-digital 360° screen more than 50 in diameter in the Adler's Definiti Space Theater.

Shedd Aquarium **11:40 am. to 1:00 p.m.**

Students will make in Sheddible connections as they "travel" to aquatic environments around the world via Shedd Aquarium's highly renowned exhibits! Unique opportunities await as they experience science through encounters with Shedd's animal collection such as a Surinam red-tailed boa from the Amazon or a Cuban iguana, or by chatting with a Shedd aquarist to see first-hand what it takes to care for the animals, or even "journeying" to the Philippines through Shedd Aquarium's *Wild Reef* exhibit as students learn about the diversity of sharks while these predatory swimmers glide overhead.

There is growing concern that the United States is not preparing a sufficient number of students, teachers, and practitioners in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. "If we are to compete globally, then we must prepare today. I applaud the staff of these institutions that helped to organize this activity. It is important that we encourage young people to take an interest in these fields of study." said Representative Davis.

Interested media is invited to attend.

Museum contacts:
Museum of Science and Industry - Julie Parente (773) 753-6249 julie.parente@msichicago.org
Adler Planetarium - Kathleen Jacob (312) 322-0511 kjacob@adlerplanetarium.org
Shedd Aquarium - Melissa Kruth (312) 692-3330 mkruth@sheddaquarium.org

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