

# skin

living armor, evolving identity



## ***Skin: Living Armor, Evolving Identity***

is created by the California Academy of Sciences and modified for tour by the Science Museum of Minnesota. The exhibit aims to inspire wonder and curiosity about this uniquely complex organ, illustrate the incredibly adaptive properties of skin across all organisms, and spark dialogue and reflection about skin's role in shaping human culture and identity.

The exhibit features dozens of scientific specimens that showcase the incredibly adaptive properties of skin in animals—including its ability to support and regenerate keratin-based structures like armored scales, aerodynamic feathers, and insulating fur. *Skin* dives deeper to explore how evolution has shaped diversity in human skin—and how much we still have yet to uncover about the underlying genetics of skin color. The exhibit presents the topics of racism, prejudice, and discrimination through the lenses of history and science. Visitors will investigate the layers of meaning humans have associated with skin color throughout history and how our ever-evolving social and political climate has influenced shifting ideas of race and culture in our modern world.

*“When we study human skin color from a global perspective, we are struck immediately by the fact that skin color is related to the intensity of sunlight. This fact alone is important because it shows that people have been subjected to the same evolutionary forces as other animals and that they have responded similarly. We are part of the natural world!”*

— Dr. Nina Jablonski, Academy Fellow and Evan Pugh University

— Professor of Anthropology at Pennsylvania State University

## FEATURES

- 4,000—5,000 sq ft (370—465 sq m)
- Deep content rooted in bold science
- Dozens of specimens from world-class research collections
- Open, casual, non-threatening environment for important conversations
- Educational materials for on-site and community use
- Flexible community outreach/promotions toolkit
- 100% bilingual
- An exhibitor friendly, turnkey operation
- SMM tour tech lead included in rental fee

## AVAILABILITY

- Contact us for current availability

## CONTACT

### **Amber Stevenson**

Director of Traveling Exhibits  
and Exhibit Sales

astevenson@smm.org | 651.221.4737



