



League of Women Voters Cuyahoga Area
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Natural History Museum CEO Evalyn Gates headlines League event



Evalyn Gates, Ph.D., Executive Director and CEO of The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, is the featured speaker at the League of Women Voters' public meeting series titled Women Who Know Their Place. Her talk, "Portal to the Universe," is set for Thursday, April 7, 2011, 7 to 9 pm, at Trinity Commons at Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland. The public is invited to attend, free of charge, with free parking for attendees behind the Cathedral off Prospect Avenue.

Dr. Gates will discuss how museums are a unique portal connecting us all to a deeper understanding of the world in which we live, from our own backyards to the most distant galaxies. Museums serve a critical role to improve scientific literacy, from new health technologies and how to best use them, to new sources of sustainable energy. She will explain The Cleveland Museum of Natural History's innovative programming, conservation and stewardship, and community outreach efforts, as the Museum serves as a platform for discussion and inspiration.

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Before coming to The Cleveland Museum of Natural History in May 2010, Dr. Gates was Assistant Director of the Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics at the University of Chicago and a Senior Research Associate in the university's Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics. Previously, she served as Vice President for Science and Education as well as Director of Astronomy at the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum in Chicago.

She received her Ph.D. in theoretical particle physics from Case Western Reserve University. Her strong interest in addressing the under-representation of women and minorities in the physical sciences has prompted her to author several articles on the topic of women in physics, as well as often speaking on this issue. Dr. Gates' first book, *Einstein's Telescope: The Hunt for Dark Matter and Dark Energy in the Universe*, was published in February 2009.

The League of Women Voters' "First Thursdays" speaker series this season features women who have achieved a high degree of success in their fields, and also celebrates the 91st Anniversary of the League of Women Voters. To learn more about The Cleveland Museum of Natural History visit www.cmnh.org, or visit www.LWVCuyahogaArea.org for more information on the April 7th event. Program funding is provided by the Cleveland Heights/University Heights Chapter of the League of Women Voters Cuyahoga Area and the LWV Cuyahoga Area Education Fund, Inc.

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Note: The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political membership organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.