



CREATURE IN OUR MIDST: Buckbeak will be on display at *Harry Potter*.

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Wizards Away!

An enchanting, global new exhibit gets its start in Chicago

BY VICKI CRAIN

Do you believe in magic? We do now. Advanced ticket sales for *Harry Potter: The Exhibition*, the new 10,000-square-foot installation opening at the Museum of Science and Industry, were so hot the run was extended before it even opened. That's no surprise considering just about everyone knows something about the young boy wizard and his adventures with good and evil. Warner Bros. and Exhibitgroup/Giltspur created this interactive experience, which makes its global premiere here in Chicago. Muggles—that's non-magically inclined folks—are able to catch a glimpse into the worldwide phenomenon created by author J.K. Rowling. Exhibit-goers can enter a re-creation of the Great Hall (where Potter and friends meet and eat), sit in the gamekeeper's hut, see a flying car along with more than 200 costumes, sets and props from the multi-billion-dollar film franchise on display. Don't know a quaffle from a Hufflepuff? Fear not, the fascinating exhibit will keep die-hard fans and Potter newbies spellbound. ■

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

57TH ST. AND LAKE SHORE DR., 773.684.1414, THROUGH SEPT. 27