



**Press Release**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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**Eye of the Storm: Hurricane Science, Mitigation and Preparedness Event**  
**Saturday, May 18, 2019 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**  
**at Museum of Discovery and Science**

**Includes a celebration of Superheroes:**  
**First Responders, Search and Rescue, and K-9 teams**

**Fort Lauderdale, FL, April 5, 2019** – South Florida families are invited to a free day of activities at *Eye of the Storm: Hurricane Science, Mitigation and Preparedness* on Saturday, May 18, 2019, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Museum of Discovery and Science. The event is sponsored by the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) and Florida International University’s International Hurricane Research Center (IHRC).

Hurricane preparedness is vital for South Florida, with a rich history of hurricane landfalls most notably Hurricanes Andrew (1992), Katrina (2005), Wilma (2005), and Irma (2017). Hurricane season in South Florida officially begins on June 1st and occurs through November 30th, with the peak occurring in late August through October. The *Eye of the Storm: Hurricane Science, Mitigation and Preparedness* event, which is free to the public, will provide valuable information and tips on how to properly prepare for the hurricane season.

*Eye of the Storm: Hurricane Science, Mitigation and Preparedness* activities include interactive weather briefings and demonstrations by local meteorologists, presentations by FIU Wall of Wind Researchers, NOAA’s Hurricane Hunters, and live theater shows and demonstrations featuring Owlie Skywarn and Tsunami Tim. Guests will also have the unique opportunity to conduct a hurricane broadcast in the FPL Storm Center and meet local TV meteorologists.

Museum visitors will see shutter products missile tested by live air cannon missile demonstrations courtesy of the International Hurricane Protection Association (IHPA). IHPA Members will also display a variety of hurricane mitigation products that can be used to protect your home and business. Visitors can also view the IHRC hands-on Wall of Wind exhibit, which shows the importance of window and roof mitigation and includes remarkable footage of structures tested by the real Wall of Wind research facility at FIU.

“In addition to learning about storm preparation through interactive exhibits, demonstrations and shows, families can explore our new traveling exhibit, Hall of Heroes. We are grateful for sponsorship from the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) and Florida International University’s International Hurricane Research Center (IHRC) that made it possible for the Museum to open its doors to everyone for this free event,” said Museum President/CEO, Joseph Cox.

Partners include Broward County Emergency Management, City of Fort Lauderdale Emergency Management, Florida Power & Light Company (FPL), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (AOML) and Hurricane Research Division (HRD), National Hurricane Center, National Weather Service Miami, International Hurricane Protection Association (IHPA), Miami-Dade College, HandsOn Broward and the American Red Cross.

Members of Broward County’s search and rescue, K-9 teams and first responders will be recognized for their services to Broward County at a special screening of the new IMAX documentary, *Superpower Dogs 3D*, at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, May 18, 2019, in the Museum’s AutoNation IMAX Theater.

*Superpower Dogs* allows audiences to experience the life-saving super powers and extraordinary bravery of some of the world’s most amazing dogs. In this inspiring true story, movie-goers will journey around the globe to meet remarkable dogs who save lives. Audiences will follow Halo, a rookie puppy training to join one of the most elite disaster response teams in America that is part of the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue team, Florida Task Force 1. *Superpower Dogs 3D* will be playing at the Museum’s AutoNation IMAX Theater through the end of this summer. You can watch the trailer on the film’s website: <https://superpowerdogs.com>

Families attending the *Eye of the Storm* event will also be able to explore a new traveling exhibit, *Hall of Heroes*. Guests will enter into the world of superheroes, crime-getters, gadgets and spies through an immersive experience. The exhibit is sponsored locally by Nicklaus Children’s Health System and the Museum’s official transportation partner, Brightline.

### **Eye of the Storm Activities – Saturday, May 18, 2019**

- **Interactive Demonstrations**
  - Live air cannon missile demonstrations courtesy of the International Hurricane Protection Association (IHPA)
  - How The Weather Works
- **Presentations by Hurricane Experts**
  - NOAA’s National Hurricane Hunters
  - FIU Wall of Wind Researchers
- **Explore the Museum’s Storm Center**
  - Meet local TV meteorologists
  - Present your own hurricane broadcast in the FPL Storm Center
- **Live Theater Shows for All Ages**

- Owlle Skywarn
- Tsunami Tim
- **Superpower Dogs 3D**
  - 9:00 a.m., more show times <https://mods.org/imax/show-times/>

**Eye of the Storm Pictures #1:**

<https://dreamfocusphotography.smugmug.com/Clients/Eye-on-the-Storm-18/n-Z2kv83/>

**Eye of the Storm Pictures #2:**

<https://dreamfocusphotography.smugmug.com/Clients/Eye-On-The-Storm-18-Part-2-/n-r8CQmv/>

**Eye of the Storm Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wnc5Agmnx-U&feature=youtu.be>

**ABOUT FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

The Division of Emergency Management plans for and responds to both natural and man-made disasters. These range from floods and hurricanes to incidents involving hazardous materials or nuclear power. The division prepares and implements a statewide Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, and routinely conducts extensive exercises to test state and county emergency response capabilities. The division is the state's liaison with federal and local agencies on emergencies of all kinds. Division staff members provide technical assistance to local governments as they prepare emergency plans and procedures. They also conduct emergency operations training for state and local governmental agencies.

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/index.asp>

**ABOUT FIU INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE RESEARCH CENTER (IHRC)**

The IHRC is a multi-disciplinary research and education organization focused on a single mission: to reduce hurricane damage and loss of life through more effective mitigation. As a Florida International University entity, the IHRC conducts both basic and applied research. The IHRC's current studies involve such areas as: household mitigation and evacuation; storm hazard and vulnerability mapping, long-term community recovery; and economic loss modeling. The IHRC also collaborates actively with the National Hurricane Center (NHC), co-located on the FIU University Park Campus in West Miami-Dade. <http://www.ihrc.fiu.edu/>

**ABOUT BROWARD COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

The Broward County Emergency Management Division develops and implements comprehensive emergency planning response, mitigation and recovery activities in order to save lives and protect property in emergencies. Technical assistance is available to develop and maintain emergency plans for all types of hazards. Free training and presentations are available to the public on request. For more information, visit [Broward.org/Emergency](http://Broward.org/Emergency), follow us on Twitter @ReadyBroward, like us on [Facebook.com/BrowardEMD](https://www.facebook.com/BrowardEMD) or call 954-831-3900.

## **ABOUT CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUREAU**

The City of Fort Lauderdale Domestic Preparedness and Emergency Management Bureau is responsible for developing, organizing and facilitating classroom training and disaster preparedness exercises for the City of Fort Lauderdale. The City of Fort Lauderdale Domestic Preparedness and Emergency Management Bureau encourages and promotes our neighbors to be well trained and prepared. For more information on how to assist us in making your community safer, stronger and better prepared please contact us at [FTL.EM@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:FTL.EM@fortlauderdale.gov) , like us on Facebook.com/City of Fort Lauderdale CERT or call (954) 828-6700

## **About Museum of Discovery and Science**

The mission of the Museum of Discovery and Science is to provide experiential pathways to lifelong learning in science for children and adults through exhibits, programs and films. Founded in 1976 as The Discovery Center, the Museum provides enriching Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education to approximately 400,000 visitors annually. As a nonprofit organization, major operational support for the Museum is provided through generous funding by Leadership Guild members including: Citrix, JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Jet Blue and Wells Fargo.

The Museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Ticket prices are \$17 for adults; \$16 for seniors 65+; \$14 for active/retired military personnel; \$14 for children 2 to 12. Children under 2 are free. A 45-minute IMAX documentary or Hollywood movie can be added for a small up charge.

The Museum of Discovery and Science is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum, call 954.467.MODS (6637) or visit our website at [www.mods.org](http://www.mods.org)

Like us or follow us on Social Media.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MuseumOfDiscoveryAndScience/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/modsfl>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/modsftl/>

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