## About the presenters:



Dr. Briana Pobiner



Dr. Rick Potts



Dr. Connie Bertka



Dr. Jim Miller

**Dr. Briana Pobiner** is a paleoanthropologist and educator in the Smithsonian Institution's Human Origins Program Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean to Be Human? The new exhibition was developed by the Smithsonian Institution and American Library Association and will appear at 19 public libraries across the country between April 2015 and April 2017.

**Dr. Rick Potts** is a paleoanthropologist who directs the Human Origins Program at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, where he also holds the Peter Buck Chair in Human Origins. Since joining the Smithsonian in 1985, Rick has dedicated his research to piecing together the record of Earth's environmental change and human adaptation. His ideas on how human evolution responded to environmental instability have stimulated wide attention and new research in several scientific fields.

Rick received his Ph.D. in biological anthropology from Harvard University in 1982, after which he taught anthropology at Yale University and served as curator of physical anthropology at the Yale Peabody Museum.

Dr. Connie Bertka holds a Ph.D. in Geology from Arizona State University and a M.T.S., Master of Theological Studies, from Wesley Theological Seminary. She is currently an independent scholar and consultant with Science and Society Resources, LLC. She is the Co-Chair of the Smithsonian Institution's Human Origins Program's Broader Social Impacts Committee. Connie has taught on contemporary issues in science and religion at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington DC and from 2002 through 2008 she directed the Program of Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion at the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In addition to her research in planetary sciences, Dr. Bertka has had a longterm scholarly and pragmatic interest in the relationships between science and religion and their influence on the public's understanding of science. She is the editor of Exploring the Origin, Extent, and Future of Life: Philosophical, Ethical, and Theological Perspectives (Cambridge University Press, 2009). Dr. Bertka also is a planetary geologist and educator in science and religion.

**Rev. James Bradley Miller, PhD** is the president of the Presbyterian Association on Science, Technology and the Christian Faith. He is an honorably retired ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church (USA) with an MDiv from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia and a Ph.D. in theology from Marquette University. Most of his ministry was served as a minister in higher education at Michigan Technological University, the University

of Pittsburgh, and Carnegie Mellon University. However, immediately following seminary, Jim worked in the School of Engineering at North Carolina State University. From 1996-2006 he was the Senior Program Associate for the Program of Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Jim currently serves as co-chair of the Broader Social Impacts Committee of the Human Origins Initiative at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.



Pueblo City-County Library presents:

# Smithsonian Institute's Exploring Human Origins

A free interactive traveling exhibit

## What does it **RARY** mean to be human?

March 28-April 24, 2016 Rawling Library, InfoZone-4<sup>th</sup> floor

no heidelbergensis

Travel back 6 million years to discover how our ancestors struggled to survive dramatic climate changes and, in the process, evolve the traits that make us human.

Homo neanderthalensis



Homo erectus

### Clergy Tour and Community Leader Discussion 7:30-9 a.m., Thursday, April 7, 2016

This is a dedicated, private time for clergy to view the exhibit while the library is not open to the public. Dr. Rick Potts and Dr. Briana Pobiner, will join the clergy in the exhibit space to discuss any questions clergy may have about the exhibit's presentation of the science of human origins. The co-chairs of the Smithsonian's Human Origins Program's Broader Social Impacts Committee, Dr. Connie Bertka and Dr. Jim Miller, will facilitate a discussion among the attending clergy regarding questions the exhibit may raise for their religious communities. A reception will follow.

## Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean To Be Human? 7 p.m., Thursday, April 7, 2016

How can scientific discoveries on human evolution connect with larger understandings of what it means to be human? Join Dr. Rick Potts, paleoanthropologist and curator of the traveling exhibit, as he explores the main themes and messages of the traveling exhibit in a program for the general public. The talk and following conversation will explore how fossils, archeological remains, and genetic studies shed light on our connection with the natural world and the origins of sharing, caring, and innovation.

## Educators Workshop on Teaching Human Evolution

Educator workshop: 1-4 p.m., Friday, April 8, 2016, Rawlings Library, Ryals Room-4<sup>th</sup> floor To make a reservation for the workshop, call Maria Tucker at 553-0205 or visit www.pueblolibrary.org/ infozoneevents

Dr. Briana Pobiner, who leads the Human Origins Program's education and outreach efforts, and Dr. Rick Potts, the exhibition curator and director of the



NMNH Human Origins Program, will present a 3 hour workshop on human evolution for science educators in each community hosting the exhibition. The workshop is for classroom teachers; science, nature center, and museum educators; homeschoolers; and other local educators. It will feature exploration and hands-on practice in presenting the Human Origins Program resources provided for each community. These resources include a set of five early human skull casts; classroom-tested, highschool Biology teaching supplements on "What Does It Mean to Be Human?", and a teacher resource on cultural and religious sensitivity strategies.

## **School Tour Information:**

Rawlings Library, InfoZone-4<sup>th</sup> floor Times available: 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes Age Level: 4<sup>th</sup> grade or higher Cost for this educational tour provided by the Pueblo City-County Library District. Funding for busing may be available. This tour can be scheduled in conjunction with El Pueblo History Museum's "Dig to Discover" tour. To make reservations call Jeremy Morton at 719-583-0453 or email jeremy. morton@state.co.us. All reservations must be made two weeks in advance.

Pueblo City-County Library District and El Pueblo History Museum are offering school tours where students can explore the exhibit and learn about the history of human culture in a fun and interactive way. The tour includes standards based educational programming designed for grades 4 through 12. Tours are hosted by education staff from El Pueblo History Museum and the InfoZone News Museum.

## Exploring the Meanings of Human Evolution: A Community Conversation 6:30 p.m., Friday, April 8, 2016

scientific How do discoveries about human origins relate to people's personal understanding of the world and their place in it? Join Drs. Connie Bertka and Jim Miller they as encourage a community conversation about human evolution that



helps us to understand each other's perspectives, to identify areas of common interest or concern, and to explore the variety of ways human evolution connects to personal meaning. They will be joined by Drs. Rick Potts and Briana Pobiner.

## **Family Day**

#### 10 a.m.-4 p.m, Saturday, April 9, 2016

Join us in the InfoZone and throughout the Rawlings Library for a fun family day festival celebrating early human ancestors and what makes us human. Activities on art, culture and technology will be going on throughout the library with a showing of the movie *The Croods* (PG) at 2 p.m. in the InfoZone theater.