



MEDIA ALERT | For Immediate Release
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Contact: Megan McKenzie
Mobile: 304.723.8660
McKenzieM@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

Contact: Connie George
Mobile: 412.638.7029
GeorgeC@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

**CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER PARTNERS WITH UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH CENTER
FOR VACCINE RESEARCH FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENT**

***FREE EVENT EXPLORES THE SCIENCE OF VIRUSES AND THE PITTSBURGH PREMIERE OF THE FILM,
CHASING COVID***

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 4, 2021 – World-renowned virologists, immunologists, and physician scientists are set to answer questions about SARS-CoV-2, herd immunity and why it's important, and the need to continue being creative in vaccinology at [Carnegie Science Center](#) on **Sat., Aug. 14** for [SARS Saturday ... CHASING COVID](#). In collaboration with the [University of Pittsburgh Center for Vaccine Research](#), visitors from **10 am–2 pm** can take part in activities to learn about the structure of viruses, how disease spreads, and see what scientists who work with these dangerous viruses in the Center for Vaccine Research wear. In addition, the theatrical debut of **CHASING COVID** will premiere in The Rangos Giant Cinema at 10:15 am, 11 am, and 1 pm. All SARS Saturday ... *CHASING COVID* activities are free to the public and general admission to Carnegie Science Center is not required to participate.

[CHASING COVID](#) is a new film created by the University of Pittsburgh Center for Creativity that takes viewers inside the University of Pittsburgh Center for Vaccine Research laboratories where Dr. Paul Duprex, Director and Jonas Salk Professor, and his team have been working collaboratively with scientists around the world to unlock the secrets of COVID-19 and find ways to defeat coronavirus.

“As a community resource, we want to create the opportunity for you to learn, ask questions, and be in the know about the latest science discoveries,” said Jason Brown, Henry Buhl, Jr., Director of Carnegie Science Center. “As the City that accomplished massive scientific feats with polio and beyond, we’re honored to collaborate with world-renowned experts and researchers from the University of Pittsburgh Center for Vaccine Research to answer your questions about COVID-19 and the ever-evolving variants, and to learn more about what Dr. Paul Duprex and his team have conquered in the fight against COVID-19 right in our own back yard.”

“In *CHASING COVID*, we were fortunate to be able to follow the work of Dr. Paul Duprex and his team at the University of Pittsburgh Center for Vaccine Research biocontainment laboratories, but also show viewers the work, collaboration, and creativity that this team and labs around the world have needed to harness in order to defeat coronavirus,” said Carl Kurlander, Producer and Director of *CHASING COVID* and Senior Lecturer at the University of Pittsburgh. “This story particularly resonates in Pittsburgh, the town that played a seminal role in conquering polio with Jonas Salk and his team decades ago.”

CHASING COVID-featured scientists Paul Duprex, Anita McElroy, Sham Nambulli, and Natasha Tilston-Lunel will be on-hand to answer audience questions.

In addition to the in-person event on Sat., Aug. 14, Carnegie Science Center is hosting a lunchtime installment of their [Vaccine Speaker Series](#) on **Tues., Aug. 10 at noon** via a [Facebook Live](#). The free, virtual event features noted vaccine expert, pediatrician, and science advocate **Dr. Peter J. Hotez** of Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Peter J. Hotez, MD, PhD, is Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology & Microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine where he is also the Co-director of the Texas Children's Center for Vaccine Development (CVD), and Texas Children's Hospital Endowed Chair of Tropical Pediatrics.

All activities for the Sat., Aug. 14 event run from 10 am–2 pm and are free to the public. Free tickets for *CHASING COVID* are provided at the Science Center's Ticket Counter in the Main Lobby on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the event. Admission to the Science Center's exhibit galleries requires the purchase of a General Admission Ticket.

Carnegie Science Center has served as a community resource for COVID-19 and vaccine information since the inception of the Vaccine Speaker Series in May. Featuring local and national experts on COVID-19, vaccines, and the immune system, all previous [conversations with experts can be viewed here](#).

SARS Saturday ... CHASING COVID is presented by the University of Pittsburgh with funding from Pitt's Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Research. Vaccine Speaker Series is sponsored by Highmark.

About *CHASING COVID*

CHASING COVID is a University of Pittsburgh Center for Creativity Production. Producer: Janet Smith; Co-producer and Editor Andy Esper; and Producer and Director Carl Kurlander. For more information, visit: www.creative.pitt.edu/

About the University of Pittsburgh Center for Vaccine Research

Although there have been tremendous advances in the diagnosis and treatment of many medical conditions, infectious diseases remain the leading cause of deaths world-wide. Few discoveries in biomedical research are as important as those that revolve around the development of new diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines for infectious agents that pose risks to global public health and global security. The Center for Vaccine Research (CVR) at the University of Pittsburgh was established to address this imperative. Learn more at cvr.pitt.edu.

About Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

Accessibility: Features for All

Carnegie Science Center welcomes all visitors. We work to assist visitors with disabilities in obtaining reasonable and appropriate accommodations, and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities. We welcome visitors in wheelchairs on the deck of our USS Requin (SS 481) submarine. Below-deck visits require full mobility. Hearing assistance devices are available for The Rangos Giant Cinema. Please ask when you buy your ticket.

Please note that requests for accommodations should be made at least two weeks prior to your visit. For specific questions about wheelchairs, strollers, or other programmatic or equipment needs, see the ticket counter located on the first floor of the main building or contact Customer Service at 412.237.1641 or info@carnegiesciencecenter.org. Please contact Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's Accessibility Coordinator with concerns regarding accessibility for visitors with disabilities at the museums. On weekdays, call 412.622.6578 or email accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, [Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh](#) is a family of four dynamic, distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. The museums reach 1.5 million people a year through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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