

MEDIA RELEASE

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Alligators: Dragons in Paradise *Opening September 5, 2009*

Alligators: Dragons in Paradise, opening September 5 as part of the Flint RiverQuarium's 5th *Birthday Splash!* celebration, will feature a potpourri of fact and fantasy that explores our enduring fascination with the alligator and the alligator's symbolic and sociological role in Southern history.

Children and adults will be delighted to discover the exhibit's entertaining and educational displays on alligator history and legends. Guests can examine artifacts such as alligator bags, shoes, and purses, as well as cast reproductions of alligator and crocodile skulls. A tanned alligator hide and a four-and-one-half-foot mounted alligator provide hands-on experiences for visitors. The exhibit also features a recreation of an alligator nest, complete with eggs and an alligator growth chart to trace the development of an alligator from birth to maturity.

The exhibit will feature several animals of the crocodylian family, including a rare albino alligator, several smaller juvenile alligators, a juvenile Nile crocodile and a dwarf caiman from South America.

Alligators: Dragons in Paradise is on loan from the Museum of Florida History. Admission to the exhibit is included with Flint RiverQuarium admission.

The Flint RiverQuarium is southwest Georgia's premier aquarium, featuring more than 1,000 animals that call the Flint River watershed home. The Flint RiverQuarium is located at 101 Pine Avenue in downtown Albany, Georgia. Regular operating hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

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