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Registered charity no. 1147674

Smithsonian Establishes UK Charitable Trust

The Smithsonian has established a new trust organization, the UK Charitable Trust, as an independent charitable trust to honor the vision of benefactor James Smithson.

The mission of the Smithsonian UK Charitable Trust is the advancement and support of the Smithsonian's mission—to "increase and diffuse knowledge" through science, education, arts, culture and history—by increasing financial support throughout the United Kingdom for various Smithsonian projects.

Registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (charity number 1147674), the Trust's founding trustees are banker Eric Daniels, board game designer Leslie Scott, and trust law consultant Murray Hallam.

"I was delighted to accept the invitation to join the UK Trust, not only to help support the Smithsonian collections but also to make its great treasures available to a broader audience," Daniels said. "I think the Smithsonian has great relevance for anyone who cares about the development of scientific research for the benefit of future generations."

Established in 2012, the Trust has already funded science and interdisciplinary projects. The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama has received a donation to support an endowment dedicated to scientific research. The Trust has acquired the sculpture *Searching for Goldilocks Planets* by British artist Angela Palmer for the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. It is also sponsoring the National Museum of Natural History's six–volume *Mammals of Africa*, edited and illustrated by Oxford zoologist, Jonathan Kingdon.

About the Smithsonian

Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, nine research facilities and 20 libraries. There are 6,000 Smithsonian employees and 6,500 volunteers. Approximately 30 million people from around the world visited the Smithsonian in 2012. The total number of objects, works of art and specimens at the Smithsonian is estimated at 137 million.