

WITTE MUSEUM

MEDIA CONTACTS

Shannon H. Standley: 210.357.1876

shannonstandley@wittemuseum.org

Jim Dalglish: 210.357.1870

jimd@wittemuseum.org

RELEASE DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

Valero Announces Historic Gift to Witte Museum

SAN ANTONIO—**Valero Energy Foundation** announced today a \$4 million gift to the **Witte Museum**. The Witte Museum will honor the historic gift by naming the new Witte entrance the **Valero Great Hall**. The Witte Museum is especially grateful to partner with the respected and dynamic Valero Energy Corporation.

The Valero Great Hall, a grand glass entry and lobby, will provide a much-needed welcome for the hundreds of thousands of visitors to the Witte each year. The Valero Great Hall will also feature Texas dinosaurs and a soaring Quetzalcoatlus Northropi, whose 40-foot wingspan made it the largest flying creature ever discovered.

Valero's gift follows an equally generous lead gift by Betty and Bob Kelso to fund the future Betty and Bob Kelso Texas Art Center. The Witte Museum is grateful for the gifts from Valero and the Kelsos and their vision of the future Witte.

The Witte Museum has spent the past three years laying the groundwork for the future expansion. Vital preparations have been secured through the purchase of the Parkside Building on Broadway for open collections, expanding the Witte campus from 4 acres to 8 acres, receiving a 65-year lease from the City of San Antonio and ensuring the reality of a much-needed Brackenridge Park Parking facility for more than 300 cars. These accomplishments and the generosity of Valero and Betty Kelso all serve as stepping stones to the future Witte.

###