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WITTE MUSEUM

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Witte Museum and Methodist Healthcare Present an Evening with the “da Vinci Robot”

5:30-7:30 p.m., August 20, 2008

SAN ANTONIO—**Methodist Healthcare** is joining in the excitement of the **Witte Museum**'s exhibit *The Genius of Leonardo* by showcasing their own “**da Vinci robot**” at the Witte **5:30-7:30 p.m.** on Wednesday, **August 20**. Visitors who come to see the robot demonstration will enjoy discounted admission 5:30-7:30 p.m. For one evening only, admission for the full museum, the da Vinci robot demonstration, *The Genius of Leonardo* exhibit and Leonardo's Workshop is only \$8 for adults and \$6 for children. Children 3 and under are free and Witte members pay only the \$3 surcharge for the exhibit.

The robot is a crucial part of the da Vinci surgical system and is used to perform surgeries by replicating a surgeon's movements using Endowrist[®] instruments, resulting in a less invasive surgical procedure. The robot is presently being used by the Methodist Healthcare system in San Antonio.

The Da Vinci Surgical System is a part of Intuitive Surgical[®], and is a robotic platform used to turn a complex surgery into a minimally invasive approach. To perform a procedure, the surgeon carefully watches images from a high-resolution endoscopic camera and uses the master controls to maneuver four robotic arms. For the patient, a da Vinci procedure offers all the potential benefits of a minimally invasive surgery procedure, including less pain, less blood loss and quicker recovery time.

The Witte Museum is currently hosting *The Genius of Leonardo*, a world-renowned traveling exhibit displaying the inventions of Leonardo da Vinci. The stop at the Witte Museum marks the first time the exhibit appears in the United States.

More than 40 life-sized and fully operational machines are on display for visitors to explore. In Leonardo's Workshop, there are opportunities to examine problems da Vinci faced, as well as activities to encourage visitors to try inventing something of their own.

The Genius of Leonardo is generously supported by The Boeing Company, The Wachovia Foundation, the Joan and Herb Kelleher Charitable Foundation, a grant from the Dan and Gloria Oppenheimer Fund and Grace W. Baskin Charitable Fund of the San Antonio Area Foundation, the Holt Atherton Education Fund, Citibank, Humanities Texas, and the City of San Antonio Office of Cultural Affairs.

For more information call 210.357.1900 or visit www.wittemuseum.org. To learn more about the da Vinci surgery system visit www.davincisurgery.com.

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