

Find great staff™

# AM2

The news & jobs magazine  
from Attractions Management

AM2.jobs

3 MAY 2017 ISSUE 77

## Gotham City, Bedrock and more for Warner Bros Abu Dhabi

Miral – the developer behind Abu Dhabi's new Warner Bros theme park on Yas Island – has revealed new details on the upcoming attraction, which will be made up of six immersive worlds inspired by popular IPs.

The US\$1bn (€917m, £775m) theme park venture, announced in April last year, is around 60 per cent complete and on course to open its doors to the public in 2018.

Inside the 153,000sq m (1.65m sq ft) attraction, visitors will be able to experience a selection of 29 rides, shows and attractions.

Included will be thrill rides, family attractions and live entertainment spectacles.

The DC universe will make up two of the six worlds, with Metropolis



Visitors will be able to explore Batman's home of Gotham City

and Gotham City – the homes of Superman and Batman respectively.

The next world, Cartoon Junction, will bring together popular Warner Bros

characters such as Bugs Bunny and Scooby-Doo, and place them in a stylised cartoon world immersing guests in animation.

For fans of Hannah-Barbera's The Flintstones, a recreation of Bedrock will make up the fourth world, while Dynamite Gulch will feature both Looney Tunes and Hanna-Barbera characters.

The final part of the park will be Warner Bros Plaza – an area celebrating Hollywood and telling the history of Warner Bros.

Warner Bros Abu Dhabi will be the third theme park to come to Yas Island, joining Ferrari World Abu Dhabi and Yas Waterworld at the entertainment destination.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=R7R9y\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=R7R9y_A)

## Mystery toxin cause of Vancouver Aquarium beluga deaths

A five-month investigation into the deaths of two belugas at Vancouver Aquarium last year has determined the cetaceans were killed thanks to an unknown toxin introduced “by food, water, or through human interference”.

The investigation by the aquarium – which involved dozens of veterinary pathologists, toxicologists, genome specialists, medical doctors, and field research scientists – concluded that the cause of death in both animals was a toxin.

“Extensive testing was unable to identify the exact substance involved, which is not uncommon due to the very limited time a toxin is traceable in the bloodstream,” said a statement from the aquarium.

“The investigation has helped us understand what happened and, importantly,



The aquarium currently owns six belugas

how we can best ensure the safety and welfare of marine mammals in our care.”

According to the aquarium, since the deaths, several measures have been taken to test, evaluate, and reduce risks in the Arctic habitat, including an enhanced food-screening process, removal of adjacent vegetation, an overhaul of mechanical water treatments systems and increased water monitoring. Significant security updates have also been deployed to monitor perimeter access and reduce potential threats of human interference.

“The conclusion of the investigation helps bring closure to an extremely difficult situation,” said Dr. Martin Haulena, head veterinarian at Vancouver Aquarium.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=v8w2Z\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=v8w2Z_A)

GET  
AM2

Magazine sign up at  
[AM2.jobs/subs](http://AM2.jobs/subs)

Job board live job updates  
[AM2.jobs](http://AM2.jobs)

PDF for iPad, Kindle & smart phone  
[AM2.jobs/pdf](http://AM2.jobs/pdf)

Ezine sign up for weekly updates,  
[AM2.jobs/ezine](http://AM2.jobs/ezine)

Online on digital turning pages  
[AM2.jobs/digital](http://AM2.jobs/digital)

Instant sign up for instant alerts,  
[AM2.jobs/instant](http://AM2.jobs/instant)

Twitter  follow us:  
[@am2jobs](https://twitter.com/am2jobs)

RSS sign up for job & news feeds  
[AM2.jobs/rss](http://AM2.jobs/rss)

**Leisure Media**

Tel +44 (0)1462 431385  
 Fax +44 (0)1462 433909  
 e-mail [fullname@leisuremedia.com](mailto:fullname@leisuremedia.com)

**Subscriptions**

[subs@leisuremedia.com](mailto:subs@leisuremedia.com)

**Editor**

Liz Terry +44 (0)1462 431385

**AM2 Managing editor**

Tom Anstey +44 (0)1462 471916

**Attractions Management**

Alice Davis +44 (0)1462 471918

**Head of news**

Matt Campelli +44 (0)1462 471912

**Journalists**

Kim Megson +44 (0)1462 471915

Jane Kitchen +44 (0)1462 471929

**AM2 Products editor**

Lauren Heath-Jones +44 (0)1462 471927

**AM2 Publisher**

Julie Badrick +44 (0)1462 471919

**Associate publisher**

Sarah Gibbs +44 (0)1462 471908

**Sales**

Simon Hinksman +44 (0)1462 471905

Paul Thorman +44 (0)1462 471904

Chris Barnard +44 (0)1462 471907

**Design**

Ed Gallagher +44 (0)1905 20198

**Web team**

Michael Paramore +44 (0)1462 471926

Dean Fox +44 (0)1462 471900

Tim Nash +44 (0)1462 471917

Emma Harris +44 (0)1462 471921

**Research**

Joe Neary +44(0)1462 431385

**Financial administrator**

Denise Adams +44 (0)1462 471930

**Circulation manager**

Michael Emmerson +44 (0)1462 471932

**Subscribe to AM2:**

Online [www.am2.jobs/subs](http://www.am2.jobs/subs)

Email [subs@leisuremedia.com](mailto:subs@leisuremedia.com)

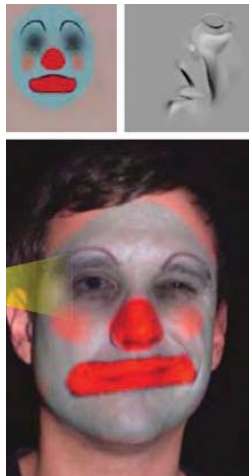
Tel +44 (0)1462 471913

Annual subscription rates are UK £31

Europe £41, Rest of world £62

UK Students £16

AM2 is published fortnightly by The Leisure Media Company Limited, Portmill House, Portmill Lane, Hitchin, Herts SG5 1DJ, UK and is distributed in the USA by SPP, 75 Aberdeen Road, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437. Periodicals postage paid @ Manchester, PA POSTMASTER Send US address changes to Spa Opportunities, c/o PO Box 437, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437. The views expressed in print are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher The Leisure Media Company Limited. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recorded or otherwise without the prior permission of the copyright holder. Printed by Preview Cromatic Ltd. ©Cybertrek Ltd 2016 ISSN Print: 2055-8171 Digital: 2055-818X



The system detects facial orientation and expression to map augmented images on the face

## Disney creates dynamic 'Makeup Lamp'

Disney's research arm has unveiled a new technology concept capable of live dynamic augmentation onto human faces.

Dubbed a 'Makeup Lamp', the concept uses projector-based illumination, which can alter the appearance of human performers during different performances.

The system uses infrared illumination and uses a high-speed camera detecting

facial orientation and expression. When the system detects this, expression are mapped and generated onto the user's face.

"In contrast to existing methods, the presented system is the first method which fully supports dynamic facial projection mapping without the requirement of any physical tracking markers," said the paper.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=J8m5X\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=J8m5X_A)

## Universal theme parks continue to impress for Comcast in Q1 earnings

Universal's theme parks continue to act a growth driver for parent company Comcast, with the company recording revenue increases of 9 per cent to US\$1.1bn (€1bn, £853m) in the first quarter of 2017.

For the quarter, Universal's theme parks drew a profit of US\$397m (€364m, £307.8m) – a 6.1 per cent increase on last year's figures.

Continued growth in the company's theme park business thanks to continued investment and the 100 per cent purchase of Universal Studios Japan in late 2015 gave strength to the rise, which is particularly impressive considering the spring break period – which traditionally falls in the first quarter – occurring outside of the first three months of 2017.



Universal continues to do exceptionally well for Comcast

Universal's parks continue to do exceptionally well for Comcast, with revenue growing around 150 per cent between 2011 and 2016, thanks in large part to the addition of Harry Potter attractions at Universal attractions, which have been a huge draw for visitors.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=w9Q5X\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=w9Q5X_A)



## Discovery unveils plan for US\$400m Costa Rica theme park

Discovery Communications is hoping to entice some of its three billion worldwide viewers to a US\$400m (€373m, £312m) eco-theme park resort it is developing in Costa Rica.

Discovery, which owns both the Discovery Channel and Animal Planet airing in more than 180 countries, will develop the 8sq km (3sq m) project alongside local firm Sun Latin America, with the park to open in the province of Guanacaste by 2020.

Costa Rican President Luis Guillermo Solís announced the plans, which will include rock climbing, hiking, diving and other adventure activities. The park, which will have a strong focus on biodiversity and conservation, is also likely to include a waterpark, Discovery-branded hotel and a number of restaurants.

Development on the project is expected to start in 2018. More than 2,000 jobs will be created during the development process, according to the Costa Rican government.

"Millennials are interested in more than lying in a beach chair," said Leigh Anne Brodsky, executive vice president



The Discovery park in Costa Rica will have a strong focus on biodiversity and conservation

of Discovery Global Enterprises, who added that viewers will be able to "live out the lifestyle of Discovery beyond the experience of a TV screen."

According to *Bloomberg*, Discovery will limit risk associated with the

project, as Sun Latin America will be taking charge of developing the park and managing it once open under a licensing agreement. The financial dealings for the deal have not been publicly revealed.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=q5x3v\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=q5x3v_A)

## City plans to reopen short-lived US\$22m Texas waterpark

A US\$22m (€20m, £17.2m) Texas waterpark opened in July last year and closed just six months later could be about to get a second chance as officials search for a way to restart the venture.

Alice, which relies heavily on oil prices to bolster its economy, took a hit in 2014 following a collapse in crude oil value, resulting in the city falling into debt. The municipality-owned waterpark was supposed to be at the heart of a development planned by the city, but the cash crunch meant the plans were put to one side and delayed the grand opening for a number of months.

Finally opening on 1 July, the waterpark remained in operation until 14 December when the Alice City Council voted unanimously to suspend operations, saying the attraction had become too expensive to operate.

A now-dissolved committee representing the waterpark have insisted that the facility was closed before a complete financial picture of its expenses had emerged. According to the city, the Council will explore a number of scenarios for reopening



With the city of Alice in debt, the waterpark only remained open for a period of six months

the Alice facility's doors, with one consideration being a seasonal approach.

The waterpark isn't the only Texas waterpark to have encountered financial issues, with another troubled waterpark in Katy recently saved with a new operator in Typhoon Texas and a refinancing to the tune of US\$25m (€23m, £19.5m).

The waterpark took three years to develop, with work completed in September 2015. It features three 30-foot slides, three children's slides, a lazy river, play area, picnic area and a 25m (269ft) pool. Naismith Engineering acted as lead architect, while Corpus Christi-based Marshall Company were general contractors.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=r7u6h\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=r7u6h_A)

# Delays and costs stack up for Los Angeles' Academy Museum

Los Angeles' Academy Museum of Motion Pictures isn't following the Hollywood script during its construction, with skyrocketing costs and lengthy delays holding up the long-awaited project, according to new reports.

The Renzo Piano-designed museum – which will be dedicated to exploring and curating the history and future of the moving image – was originally budgeted at US\$250m (€233m, £195m) when it was first conceived several years ago. But since then costs have swollen to US\$388m (€362m, £302.5m), with projections pushing that figure as high as US\$400m (€373m, £312m).

Breaking ground in March last year, fundraising delays also led to construction delays, which meant a completion date of December 2017 was pushed back several times. An opening date is now set for April 2019 – nearly two years behind schedule.

*Variety* reports that the Academy's board met in March to discuss the position of CEO Dawn Hudson. According to the publication, one board member said the project was



Construction is now reaching a crucial stage with the 130-foot glass sphere about to be built

“heading for an iceberg”, and expressed a lack of confidence in Hudson's leadership. Hudson would survive the meeting, with a vote to extend her contract by three years, but there have been concerns that the

Academy, which earns nearly four fifths of its annual revenue from the Oscar TV broadcast – US\$113m (€105m, £88m) in 2016 – is running low on funds.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=z9F6C\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=z9F6C_A)



The Mail Rail is located below London

## London's Mail Rail given July launch date

London's upcoming Postal Museum has confirmed that it will open its doors to the public later this year, with the £26m (US\$33.2m, €30.5m) attraction set to launch in July.

Created to chronicle five centuries of social and communication history across Britain, the Postal Museum will also feature the old engineering depot of the one hundred year old Post Office railway – the Mail Rail. Visitors will be able to descend to the rail, where they can board a miniature train designed to transport them through the tunnels.

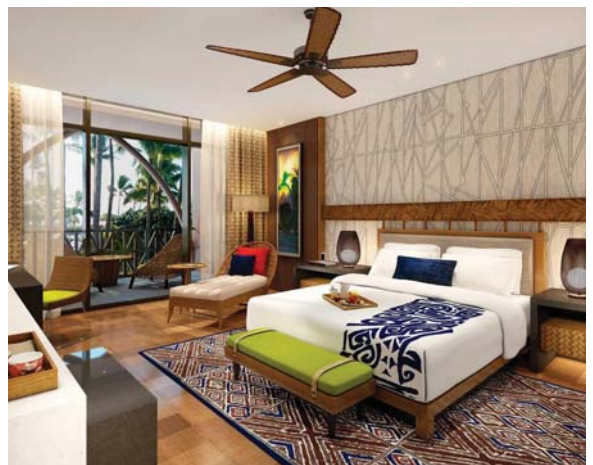
More: [http://lei.sr?a=k9J6z\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=k9J6z_A)

## DXB plans expansion of Lapita hotel brand to entertainment destinations

DXB Entertainments – the parent company of Dubai Parks and Resorts – has announced its intention to expand its Lapita Hotel brand beyond the UAE, with plans to establish a collection of themed hotels, tailored to theme park and family entertainment destinations.

The Polynesian-themed Lapita Hotel, part of Marriott's Autograph Collection, opened its doors to the public on 2 January this year and is located within Dubai Parks and the multi-billion dollar theme park destination.

The 504-bedroom hotel – which includes an OLA Spa Boutique and features lagoon style pools, five restaurants and bars, and 2,200sq m (23,700sq ft) of meeting and event space – is designed to be child friendly and offers themed activities to engage a younger audience.



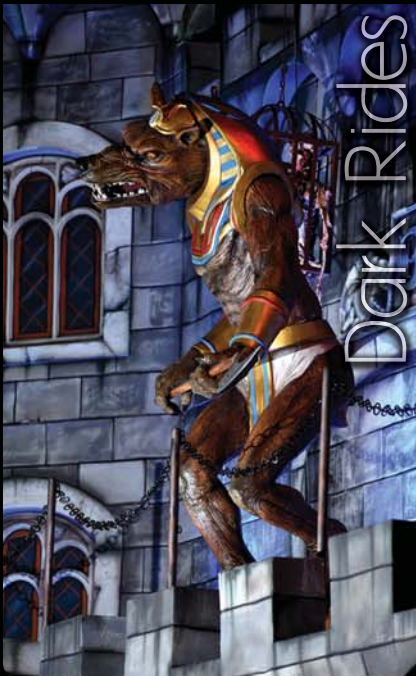
The chain will be linked to theme parks and entertainment

DXB Entertainments wants to take this model and expand within the Middle East region initially, ultimately forming a chain of upscale themed family hotels present at prime entertainment destinations worldwide.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=S3f7J\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=S3f7J_A)



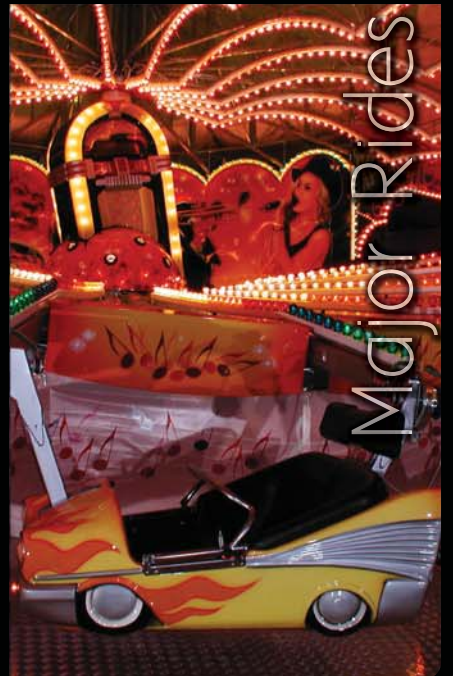
Venetian Carousels



Dark Rides



Bumper Cars



Major Rides



# Six Flags CEO hints at further international expansion plans

Six Flags CEO John Duffey has revealed new details about the company's international dealings, hinting at further announcements in 2017 while also offering updates on the operator's blossoming Saudi Arabia deal and stuttering Vietnam project.

"I can't tell you exactly how many potential further announcements we are expecting to make this year," said Duffey. "But we've got some great discussions ongoing and I would be disappointed if we do not have further deals announced by the end of 2017."

Six Flags' proposed Vietnam project hit a stumbling block in February after its franchise partner NaVi Entertainment failed to fulfil "contractual obligations", with the operator serving the company a Notice of Default.

Discussing dealings with Saudi Arabia – which is also reportedly interested in purchasing a stake in Six Flags through the kingdom's Public Investment Fund – Duffey said "good progress" was being made to deliver a theme park to the region.



Six Flags CEO John Duffey is optimistic of further new deals being inked overseas

"We've had numerous discussions and meetings with the Saudis," he said. "We've recently completed our first phase of the work and we're moving towards signing definitive agreements. Our hope is that we

can get that accomplished in the near term, and I feel very good about the status of the project and believe that Saudi Arabia is an excellent market for us."

More: [http://lei.sr?a=X6p9r\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=X6p9r_A)



Lemn Sissay is one of the speakers

## MA announces keynotes for November conference

The Museums Association has announced the first keynote speakers for its November conference, with poet Lemn Sissay and comedian Francesca Martinez set to address this year's delegation.

The MA conference and exhibition, which takes place in Manchester between 16 to 18 November, will welcome both Sissay and Martinez, who will speak about the theme of this year's conference – 'audiences; collections and workforce'.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=U3a2r\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=U3a2r_A)

# Carnival Cruise Line's newest ship to feature world-first Dr Seuss water park

A world-first Dr. Seuss waterpark will debut onboard cruise line operator Carnival's newest vessel in 2018.

With slides supplied by Polin, the Dr. Seuss WaterWorks on Carnival Horizon will be a thematic take on the waterslide complexes typically used on Carnival ships.

Included in the on-board attraction will be a 450ft (137m), red and white Cat in the Hat water slide (Polin's Back Hole), a blue and white polka dot, 213-ft (65m) Fun Things water slide (Polin's Aquatube) with special lighting effects, a 150-gallon tipping bucket patterned after The Cat's hat, and a children's zone with water spray toys.

The addition of the IP to Carnival's waterparks is the expansion of the



The 3,934-passenger Carnival Horizon will set sail in 2018

fleet's 'Seuss at Sea' programme – a partnership that includes dining and entertainment experiences themed around the world of Dr. Seuss for the estimated 800,000 children a year that enjoy a stay with Carnival.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=r4k4f\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=r4k4f_A)



# VAC2017



**4 October 2017**

*Put it in your diary now!*



## THE ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

**Wednesday 4 October 2017 - The QEII Conference Centre, London.**

The essential event for owners, managers and marketers of a visitor attraction, for opinion formers and tourism or heritage professionals.

VAC is a national conference organised by the industry, for the industry where you can:

- Get involved in a unique forum for industry professionals.
- Network and share experiences.

Don't miss this opportunity to:

- Understand your business in the context of the wider visitor attractions market.
- Keep up to date and find new directions for your business.

**Join our mailing list to receive regular conference updates.  
Early bird and multiple booking discount registration rates apply.**

[www.vacevents.com](http://www.vacevents.com)

Principal Sponsor:



Official Publication:

**Attractions**  
MANAGEMENT

Supported by:





# AM2

## DIARY DATES

4-5 MAY 2017

### **TEA SATE Europe** National Motor Museum, Beaulieu, UK

The TEA's SATE conference will bring together industry professionals, academics, attractions operators and owners to discuss a number of topics surrounding development for the future for cultural visitor attractions. Ken Robinson, who currently sits on the board of the Tourism Society and was awarded a CBE for services to Tourism in 1997, will deliver the keynote address for the event, where he will be in conversation with TEA president David Willrich.  
Email: [Info@teaconnect.org](mailto:Info@teaconnect.org)  
Tel: +1 818 843-8497  
[www.teaconnect.org](http://www.teaconnect.org)

7-10 MAY 2017

### **AAM MuseumExpo 2017** St Louis, Missouri, US

The American Alliance of Museums (AAM) will host more than 5,000 museums professionals in May when they convene for the organisation's Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo. More than 100 sessions are scheduled to take place, with topics ranging from collections management and curatorial practice, to education and audience research.  
Email: [registration@aam-us.org](mailto:registration@aam-us.org)  
Tel: +1 202 289 1818  
[www.annualmeeting.aam-us.org](http://www.annualmeeting.aam-us.org)

15-18 MAY 2017

### **AALARA Conference & Exhibition** Queensland Gold Coast, Australia

The Australian Amusement, Leisure and Recreation Association's conference and exhibition will bring together industry leaders and speakers to present leadership sessions, educational and training industry forums and conduct site tours relevant to the safe and profitable management of visitor attractions.  
Email: [info@aalara.com.au](mailto:info@aalara.com.au)  
Tel: +61 1800 118 123  
[www.aalara.com.au](http://www.aalara.com.au)



The event takes place this year at the Marina Bay Sands in Singapore

13-16 JUNE 2017

### **Asian Attractions Expo 2017** Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

Join colleagues and industry leaders for the premier international business event for attractions industry professionals in the Asia-Pacific region.

Meet with representatives from more than 300 global companies showcasing new products and services for your visitor attraction.  
Email: [AsiaPacific@IAAPA.org](mailto:AsiaPacific@IAAPA.org)  
Tel: +1 703 836 4800  
[www.iaapa.org](http://www.iaapa.org)

17-18 MAY 2017

### **Museums + Heritage Show** Kensington Olympia, London, UK

The free-to-attend Museums + Heritage Show offers two days of seminars, cultural attraction experts and sector suppliers. An awards ceremony will also take place, recognising best practice within the world of museums, galleries, and cultural and heritage visitor attractions.  
Email: [anna@museumsandheritage.com](mailto:anna@museumsandheritage.com)  
Tel: +44 1905 724 734  
[www.museumsandheritage.com/show](http://www.museumsandheritage.com/show)

19 MAY 2017

### **CultureGeek** Royal Geographic Society, London, UK

CultureGeek – a one-day conference looking at the digital transformation of the cultural sector – offers a programme of speakers from leading organisations, including a full lineup of people coming from around the UK and the rest of the world to share their knowledge about the digital transformation of the culture sector.  
Email: [kala@museumnext.com](mailto:kala@museumnext.com)  
Tel: +44 (0)191 2573439  
[www.culturegeek.com](http://www.culturegeek.com)

23-26 MAY 2017

### **Disney Institute Customer Experience Summit** Orlando, Florida

Learn models for designing and delivering a superior customer service experience from one of the world's most trusted brands.  
Tel: +1 321 939 4600  
[www.disneyinstitute.com](http://www.disneyinstitute.com)

26-29 MAY 2017

### **Expo Parques e Festas** Sao Paulo, Brazil

Bringing together the main manufacturers and suppliers of parties, parks and attractions, Expo Parques e Festas informs the buyers about new products and novelties.  
Email: [sav@francal.com.br](mailto:sav@francal.com.br)  
Tel: +55 11 2226 3100  
[www.expoparquesefestas.com.br](http://www.expoparquesefestas.com.br)

6-8 JUNE 2017

### **BALPPA Summer Conference 2017** Alton Towers, UK

Join for three days of informative fun. The conference includes a golf day, members' meeting, attraction visits, Gala Dinner and more.  
Email: [events@balppa.org](mailto:events@balppa.org)  
[www.balppa.org](http://www.balppa.org)





U.PORTO

CIÊNCIA VIVA

ecsite 

## 2017 Ecsite Annual Conference

PORTO, PORTUGAL  
**15-16-17 JUNE**

**life** EVERYWHERE

THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE  
FOR SCIENCE ENGAGEMENT

[www.ecsite.eu](http://www.ecsite.eu)



# simworx®

## ROBOCOASTER®

The power to move you...

Proud Supplier to

ડુબૈ પાર્ક  
AND RESORTS™



**WORLD LEADERS IN THE DESIGN, MANUFACTURE & DEVELOPMENT OF  
3D/4D DYNAMIC SIMULATION ATTRACTIONS**

**IMMERSIVE TUNNEL - DYNAMIC SIMULATION ATTRACTIONS  
4D EFFECTS CINEMA - ROBOCOASTER RCX - 3D/4D FILM CONTENT  
IMMERSIVE VR ATTRACTIONS - FLYING THEATRE - AGV DARK RIDES**



**Worldwide Head Office**

Simworx Ltd  
37 Second Avenue  
The Pensnett Estate  
Kingswinford  
West Midlands  
DY6 7UL  
United Kingdom

W [www.simworx.co.uk](http://www.simworx.co.uk)  
E [sales@simworx.co.uk](mailto:sales@simworx.co.uk)  
T +44 (0) 1384 295 733  
F +44 (0) 1384 296 525



## MEPs secure €8m funding for European Year of Cultural Heritage

The European Parliament has secured €8m (US\$8.7m, £6.7m) in funding for cultural projects ahead of its 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage.

Proposed in February when Council and European Parliament representatives reached an agreement to establish a European Year of Cultural Heritage, MEPs voted in favour of the initiative, which aims to raise awareness of European history and values and to strengthen a sense of European identity. The event will also address challenges faced for Europe's cultural heritage.

Following negotiations with EU governments and the European Commission, the European Parliament secured the €8m budget, which will be sourced from existing EU funds for promotional activities through 2018.

"This topic is one of the few where doctrinal controversies do not have a place. This initiative goes beyond politics or natural competition between states," said Romania's



According to the EU, for every Euro invested in the culture sector, Europe gets a return of €20

Mircea Diaconu, a member of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe and author of the report on the initiative.

"The European Year of Cultural Heritage is an initiative that can unite and prove that

the European space of our 27 nations is one belonging to a unitary civilisation founded on a common history and benefiting from globally outstanding heritage."

More: [http://lei.sr?a=b2j5T\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=b2j5T_A)

## London mayor Sadiq Khan scraps plans for controversial Garden Bridge

The mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has formally withdrawn his support for a Thomas Heatherwick-designed Garden Bridge across the River Thames; bringing a likely end to a project that has fiercely split opinion.

In a letter to Lord Mervyn Davies, chair of the Garden Bridge Trust, which has been overseeing the controversial crossing, Khan said the lack of all necessary land use agreements and a significant funding shortfall mean the project represents too much of a risk to the taxpayer.

"The funding gap is now at over £70m (US\$90m, €82.8m) and it appears unlikely that the trust will succeed in raising the private funds required for the project," he wrote. "I am simply not prepared to risk a situation where the taxpayer has to step



Supporters of the bridge argued it would become a landmark

in and contribute significant additional amounts to ensure the project is completed."

The mayor added that beginning construction before all private funds were in place would run the risk of leaving the city with "a partially built bridge."

More: [http://lei.sr?a=t6V4j\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=t6V4j_A)



The board has approved the plans

### Wynn Resorts confirms US\$500m lagoon plan

Wynn Resorts has green-lighted plans to build a US\$500m (€458.7m, £390m) lagoon in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The 20-acre Paradise Park attraction, which in the day will hosts watersports and in the evening fireworks displays, will be made up of a lagoon with a white sand waterfront, featuring a host of attractions along a 4,000ft (1,220m) boardwalk.

Speaking during an earnings call, CEO Stephen Wynn said the project would "energise" the surrounding real estate, with the attraction acting as an anchor for future development.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=y6c4Q\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=y6c4Q_A)



MagnusCards offers 12 different categories in its guides

## Toronto Zoo releases autism-friendly digital guide

Toronto Zoo has launched a special support guide designed to assist those with cognitive special needs, including autism, in managing and mastering a visit to the zoo.

Known as MagnusCards, the free downloadable app is fronted by "Magnus" – a cartoon character providing users with step-by-step instructions on their phone for navigating

different places such as shopping malls, banks, restaurants and public transport.

Teaming with Magnusmode, creator of MagnusCards, five sets of simple step-by-step-card decks have been created specifically for the zoo, including decks for entering the zoo, the giant panda experience, the Tundra Trek, the African Rainforest Pavilion and for getting help within the zoo.



Arashi uses magnet technology to suddenly flip riders head-

## Asia's first 4D free spin coaster installed in Japan

S&S-Sansei Technologies (S&S) has installed a 4D free spin rollercoaster at Nagashima Spa Land in Japan.

Arashi, which translates to 'storm' in English, is an eight-seat wing coaster that features 4D technology, sudden drops and magnetic technology to flip riders head-over-heels.

The coaster stands at 120 ft (36.5m) tall and has a 1,019ft

(311m) track that includes two sudden drops and six flips. It is designed to give riders the sensation of flying.

"We've had an amazing response from our 4D free spin coasters currently operating," said Gerald Ryan, executive director of Sales and Marketing for S&S. "Riders in Japan will be satisfied with the high thrill this coaster offers."



Riders score points by fighting slime ghosts in new ride

## New Ghostbusters ride opens at Heide Park Resort

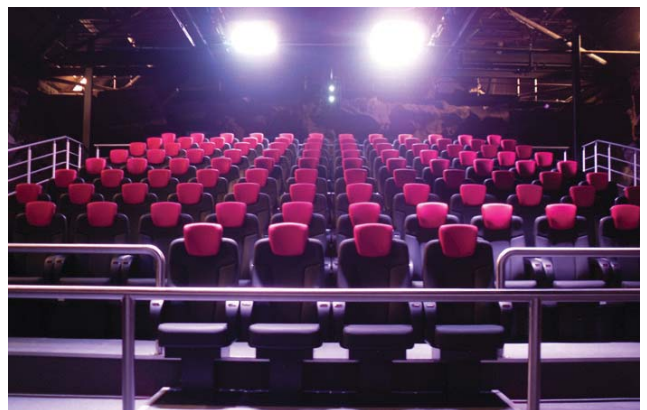
Heide Park Resort in Germany has invested £6.1m (US\$7.8m, €7.2m) in a new attraction based on the 1984 film Ghostbusters.

Ghostbusters 5D is an interactive dark ride that takes riders on an exciting journey through three different worlds - Pirate, Orient and Mayan - before heading to New York City.

Riders are equipped with laser guns and 3D glasses to score points by fighting flying slime ghosts alongside the Ghostbusters.

It was designed and installed by Canadian multi-sensory interactive attractions specialist Triotech.

The ride was opened on 11 April by model Alena Gerber and actress Jenny Elvers.



Simworx has installed an 80-seat 4D cinema at Conkers

## Derbyshire's Conkers set to open Simworx 4D cinema

Conkers, a family attraction in the National Forest in Derbyshire, UK, is launching a new 4D cinema experience, provided by media-based ride expert Simworx.

The 4D cinema will open on 12th April, showing Little Ants Adventure. The 80-seat theatre offers an all-new 3D experience with multi-sensory special effects.

"Conkers is famous for its outdoor activities such as the Hi and Lo Ropes course and Barefoot Walk, but the opening of the new 4D cinema will provide a fantastic indoor experience for our visitors," said Chris Sturdy, Conkers regional operations manager. "The films will get people using all of their senses for a really unique cinematic experience."



# Customer Service Excellence

## Guest Engagement and Up-selling in Admissions, Retail and Catering.



CREW training programmes will help your staff make that vital difference to your bottom line! Helping your customers make choices that they will want to repeat and recommend.

- Customer Service
- Guest Orchestration
- Wayfinding
- Admissions Sales
- Guidebook Sales
- Saver Tickets
- Secondary Spend
- Retail Up-selling
- Catering Up-selling
- Repeat and Recommended Business

The difference is in the detail!

**[www.crewtraining.uk.net](http://www.crewtraining.uk.net)**  
**[info@crew.uk.net](mailto:info@crew.uk.net)**  
**+44 (0)208 567 4414**

*"We have worked very closely with CREW over the last few years to improve our guest experience developing our staff, supervisor and management teams. This has made huge improvements in our staff performance and across the whole team, departments have completely changed the way they interact with our guests. The team are much happier, the guests are even happier and each season we continue to perform better and have the best guest feedback we have ever had!"*

Ross Snipp MSc, Flamingo Land Deputy Executive  
 Vice-Chair of BIAZA living Collections Committee





## Arcades Manager – Drayton Manor Park

HB Leisure is a leading operator of family arcades. One of our key UK partners is iconic theme park Drayton Manor Park.

We are now seeking an experienced and passionate **Arcades Manager** to manage the Family Entertainment Centres (FEC's) at Drayton Manor.

You will be responsible for managing the business performance of the FEC estate at the theme park and hotel, ensuring that budgeted targets are achieved for all the arcade and novelty equipment around the site and that high operating standards are adhered to.

### Your background:

- An experienced arcades manager, ideally with an FEC background.
- Proven experience of leadership and people management.
- Excellent communication and working relationship building skills.
- You will be self-directed and highly motivated.
- Technical machine knowledge would be a distinct advantage.

We offer a competitive salary between £20,000 - £25,000 pa plus a bonus scheme dependent on ability and experience.

**Applications should be submitted no later than Friday 19th May 2017 at 9.00am.**

**To Apply: <http://lei.sr?a=u9Q2r>**

## Be part of the new Coral Reef Waterworld team

Bracknell's premier leisure attraction will re-open late Summer 2017, following a £13 million refurbishment, which includes 5 new iconic flumes.



CORAL REEF  
WATERWORLD

RECRUITING  
**NOW**

### FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITIES AND COMPETITIVE SALARIES & BENEFITS

We are now recruiting to re-staff the Centre and have many positions available, working full-time, part-time and on a casual basis starting in July/August 2017:

- Recreation Assistants (Lifeguards)
- Receptionists & Spa Receptionists
- Catering Supervisor, Team Leader & Assistants
- Housekeeping / Cleaners

For more information on these positions and to apply go to: [www.coralreefbracknell.co.uk](http://www.coralreefbracknell.co.uk)





For more details on the following jobs  
visit [www.am2.jobs](http://www.am2.jobs) or to advertise  
call Sarah on +44 (0)1462 471908



● **Marketing Analyst**

Merlin Entertainments Group

Salary: Competitive

Location: New York NY, United States

● **Guest Experience Host**

Legoland Discovery Centre

Salary: Competitive

Location: Chicago IL, United States

● **Guest Experience Host**

Sea Life

Salary: Competitive

Location: Minnesota, United States

● **Retail Manager**

Legoland Discovery Centre

Salary: Competitive

Location: Boston, United States

● **Senior Front of House Manager**

Chessington World of Adventures

Salary: Competitive

Location: Chessington, United Kingdom

● **Operations Director**

Chessington World of Adventures

Salary: Competitive

Location: Chessington, United Kingdom

● **Group eCommerce Director**

Merlin Entertainments Group

Salary: Competitive

Location: Chessington, United Kingdom

● **Arcades Manager**

HB Leisure - Drayton Manor Park

Salary: £20,000 - £25,000 pa plus Bonus Scheme

Location: Tamworth, United Kingdom

● **Maintenance Director**

Legoland

Salary: Competitive

Location: California, United States

● **Marketing Manager**

Legoland Discovery Centre

Salary: Competitive

Location: San Antonio, United States

● **Marketing and Sales Coordinator**

Madame Tussauds

Salary: Competitive

Location: New York NY, United States

● **Senior Trade Sales Manager**

Madame Tussauds

Salary: Competitive

Location: New York NY, United States

● **Retail Team Leader**

Legoland Discovery Centre

Salary: Competitive

Location: Michigan, United States

● **General Manager**

Legoland Discovery Centre

Salary: Competitive

Location: San Antonio , United States

● **Operations Manager**

The Eye Brand

Salary: Competitive

Location: Orlando, United States

● **Executive Assistant**

Madame Tussauds

Salary: Competitive

Location: New York NY , United States

For more details on the above jobs visit [www.am2.jobs](http://www.am2.jobs)

# The end of an era for SeaWorld as final captive orca born in San Diego

Just over a year after SeaWorld announced plans to end its controversial orca breeding plan, the company's last killer whale has been born in its captivity.

The last generation of orcas under SeaWorld's care, the company now has a total of 23 killer whales across its parks.

The yet-to-be-named calf, born at SeaWorld San Antonio, is the offspring of 25-year-old Takara, who was pregnant before SeaWorld chose to end its orca breeding practices.

"With this being the last killer whale birth at a SeaWorld park, this is the last opportunity for researchers to study orca development in ways that



The calf is the offspring of 25-year-old orca Takara

cannot be done in the wild," said a statement. "Information learned will add to SeaWorld's extensive database about killer whales and their calves, which contribute directly

to conservation efforts for populations, like the southern resident killer whales that are threatened by pollution, overfishing and human development."

More: [http://lei.sr?a=M7W2R\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=M7W2R_A)

# UN resolution makes wilful destruction of heritage punishable as war crime

The United Nations Security Council has unanimously passed a resolution designed to deter wilful destruction and looting of cultural heritage sites – potentially making such activities punishable as war crimes.

The resolution states that unlawful attacks against cultural, educational or religious sites or historic monuments can be classed as a war crime.

"The deliberate destruction of heritage is a war crime," said UNESCO director-general Irina Bokova. "It has become a tactic of war to tear societies over the long term, in a strategy of cultural cleansing. This is why defending cultural heritage



Iraq has witnessed the destruction of many heritage sites

is more than a cultural issue, it is a security imperative, inseparable from that of defending human lives."

Recent attacks by ISIS on cultural heritage sites in Iraq and Syria have galvanised

efforts by the UN to do more. In 2015, IS militants focused sustained attacks on Iraq's heritage sites, often with the aim of selling the artefacts to fund the group's activities.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=w8r2Z\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=w8r2Z_A)

## American Association of Museums (AAM)

T: +1 202 289 1818 W: [www.aam-us.org](http://www.aam-us.org)

## Association of American Zoos & Aquariums

T: +1 301 562 0777 W: [www.aza.org](http://www.aza.org)

## Association of Art Museum Directors

T: +1 212 754 8084 W: [www.aamd.org](http://www.aamd.org)

## Association of Independent Museums (AIM)

T: +44 (0)1584 878 151 W: [www.aim-museums.co.uk](http://www.aim-museums.co.uk)

## Association of Leading Visitor Attractions (ALVA)

T: +44 (0)20 7222 1728 W: [www.alva.org.uk](http://www.alva.org.uk)

## Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC)

T: +1 202 783 7200 W: [www.astc.org](http://www.astc.org)

## Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (ASVA)

T: +44 (0)141 229 0923 W: [www.asva.co.uk](http://www.asva.co.uk)

## Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)

T: +1 301 562 0777 W: [www.aza.org](http://www.aza.org)

## Australian Amusement Leisure & Recreation Association (AALARA)

T: +61 7 3807 35 08 W: [www.aalara.com.au](http://www.aalara.com.au)

## European Association of Amusement Suppliers Industry (EAASI)

T: +39 0522 554 176 W: [www.eaasi.org](http://www.eaasi.org)

## European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA)

T: +31 20 520 07 50 W: [www.eaza.net](http://www.eaza.net)

## European Network of Science Centres and Museums (Ecsite)

T: +32 2 649 73 83 W: [www.ecsite.eu](http://www.ecsite.eu)

## Giant Screen Cinema Association (GSCA)

T: +1 919 346 1123 W: [www.giantscreencinema.com](http://www.giantscreencinema.com)

## Historic Houses Association (HHA)

T: +44 (0)20 7259 5688 W: [www.hha.org.uk](http://www.hha.org.uk)

## Indian Association of Amusement Parks & Industries (IAAPI)

T: +91 22 6523 1643 W: [www.iaapi.org](http://www.iaapi.org)

## International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions (IAAPA)

T: +1 703 836 4800 W: [www.iaapa.org](http://www.iaapa.org)

## International Planetarium Society

T: +1 808 969 9735 W: [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org)

## Irish Science Centres Awareness Network (ISCAN)

T: +353 (0)51 302 865 W: [www.iscan.ie](http://www.iscan.ie)

## Museums Australia

T: +61 2 6230 0346 W: [www.museumsaustralia.org.au](http://www.museumsaustralia.org.au)

## National Farm Attractions Network (NFAN)

T: +44 (0)1536 513 397 W: [www.farmattractions.net](http://www.farmattractions.net)

## NAVET

T: +46 (0)33 41 00 09 W: [www.navet.com](http://www.navet.com)

## Outdoor Amusement Business Association (OABA)

T: +1 407 681 9444 W: [www.oaba.org](http://www.oaba.org)

## The Aquarium & Zoo Facilities Association (AZFA)

E: [rff@tnaqua.org](mailto:rff@tnaqua.org) W: [www.azfa.org](http://www.azfa.org)

## The Canadian Museums Association

T: +1 613 567 0099 W: [www.museum.ca](http://www.museum.ca)

## The Canadian Association of Science Centres (CASC)

T: +613 566 4247 W: [www.canadiansciencecentres.ca](http://www.canadiansciencecentres.ca)

## Themed Entertainment Association (TEA)

T: +1 818 843 8497 W: [www.teaconnect.org](http://www.teaconnect.org)

## World Waterpark Association (WWA)

T: +1 913 599 0300 W: [www.waterparks.org](http://www.waterparks.org)

## Zoo & Aquarium Association

T: +61 2 9978 4797 W: [www.zooaquarium.org.au](http://www.zooaquarium.org.au)