



Press release
For immediate release

Montréal's Nature Museums' *The Magic of Lanterns* Wins Gold in the Grands Prix du tourisme québécois

Montréal, May 21, 2009 – Montréal's Nature Museums won the Gold medal in the Grands Prix du tourisme québécois last Friday, in the "Tourist attractions – 100,000 or more visitors" category, for *The Magic of Lanterns* event at the Botanical Garden. The distinction recognizes the quality of this moving, immersive experience, and the international renown of this Montréal favourite. In 2008, *The Magic of Lanterns* team met a twofold challenge, by improving the lanterns' energy efficiency while making them and the whole show even more impressive.

Charles-Mathieu Brunelle, Director of Montréal's Nature Museums, is delighted with this honour recognizing one of the Nature Museums' signature events. "The Chinese lanterns cast a whole new light on the splendours of the Chinese Garden. They create an enchanting setting that reflects the intimate relationship between Chinese civilization and nature, inviting visitors to contemplate the world around them. The whole experience encourages them to appreciate nature even more and, implicitly, to take better care of it."

Lastly, Montréal's Nature Museums would like to thank the *Montréal Nature Museums Foundation* and the *Montréal Chinese Garden Society*, without which *The Magic of Lanterns* could never have shone so brightly for the past 16 years, and its partners *Sun Life Financial* and *Transfotec International*, a division of *EMD Technologies*, for their valuable support.

Montréal's Nature Museums – the Biodôme, Insectarium, Botanical Garden and Planetarium – helping people enjoy nature to the fullest.

- 30 -

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Visual available on request