



For Immediate Release

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The Sacramento Darwin Day committee and the SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity are excited to announce [Dr. Brenna Henn](#) and [Dr. Tim Weaver](#) will be the featured speakers at the [27th Annual Sacramento Darwin Day](#). These two professors from the University of California, Davis will present their groundbreaking research pertaining to human origins in Africa.

The second longest-running Darwin Day celebration in the world, this annual celebration features a science presentation and draws individuals who hold science in high regard and want to sustain scientific integrity of school curricula and programs. For the second consecutive year the celebration will be held in the state-of-the-art planetarium at the SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity on February 17, 2024, 6:30 pm-9:30 pm at 400 Jibboom St. Sacramento, California.

Having both professors present is especially exciting for event chairperson Patrick Desmond. "In true Darwinian spirit," said Desmond "Drs. Henn and Weaver and their colleagues have followed the data to a conclusion that's rocking the scientific world. According to their research, modern humans are the descendants of two populations that coexisted for a million years in Africa before merging in several independent events. This runs counter to some of the dominant theories about humankind's origins in Africa."

Sacramento's Darwin Day Educational Gala is a community-based public event conducted annually around Charles Darwin's birthday. In the context of a party, its educational components are intended to foster in attendees a passion for science education. A presenter, usually a scientist or Darwin expert, speaks each year, highlighting science's contributions to humanity. Since 1998, the Sacramento area has hosted the annual event at various community venues with various sponsoring organizations and individuals. Desmond notes that "MOSAC's opening and collaboration with us are extremely exciting for everyone who appreciates science and its role in benefiting mankind."