



ADA EDWARDS

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Houston Museum of Natural Science Staff and Management:

It is my pleasure and honor to join in with Houstonians to congratulate you and welcome one of the most historic exhibits to our city and your facility. The grand lady 'Lucy.'

The history of Ethiopia, indeed, humankind begins with 'Lucy' (known as 'Dinkinesh' by her fellow Ethiopians) and her first visit outside of her homeland is not only a triumph for the museum and our city but is truly a triumph for all of humankind. A once in a lifetime opportunity for us all to view the probable direct ancestor of us all.

Lucy's visit to Houston and the United States also provides a great opportunity for vigorous dialogue regarding the true history of Ethiopia, its peoples, culture and contributions to the world. Indeed, one of the first countries and people mentioned in the Holy books of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, is Ethiopia. The image of Ethiopia during the last 30 years has been one of famine, floods, and human suffering. Lucy's visit provides an opportunity to discuss the thousands of years that Ethiopia and her people were vibrant, productive and referred to as 'the cradle of humankind'; and what is necessary for all of the children of Lucy to do to assist in the return of the glory that once was Ethiopia.

Again, congratulations to the staff and management of HMNS, for your vision, passion and commitment to the people of Houston and all persons who will have the opportunity to view this historic exhibit.

In Gratitude,

Ada Edwards
Houston City Council Member District D