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The Museum of Texas Tech University is pleased to present the exhibition ***Robert Sabuda: Artist and Paper Engineer***. The exhibition opens **January 22 and runs through March 26 in Gallery 2** of the Museum, located at 3301 4th Street (SE corner of 4th and Indiana Avenue), where ample free parking is available in the north and west lots.

Best known for his colorful, fanciful and intricate pop-up books, Robert Sabuda, born in 1965, grew up in the small rural town of Pinckney, Michigan. Every night his mother read stories to Robert and his older brother. As Sabuda said of his family, "Reading was very important and promoted at every opportunity."

The son of a mason/carpenter and a dance instructor, Robert exhibited artistic abilities early in life. He remembers that he was often asked by his teachers to create their bulletin boards "because they knew how much I loved art." He says about those early experiences:

This was the first time I discovered that paper could be used for more than just drawing and painting on...But the best discovery was when I folded together many pieces of paper, stapled them down the middle and created a book. I immediately began making books of all sizes filled with simple stories and happy pictures.

One mundane but inspirational event in his childhood may have been the turning point for his future career. He writes:

My passion for books took an unexpected twist after a trip to a new dentist. On a previous visit to have a cavity filled...my old dentist didn't numb my tooth enough and I began to howl with pain. My mother came running in and...whisked me away never to return. Arriving at the new dentist's office I was understandably scared. Noticing a wicker basket filled with books my mother suggested I bring one over for us to share while we waited. I went to the basket and realized right away that these books were special. They were very thick and had hard covers, which to me meant they were expensive. I opened the first one and was shocked and delighted when something leapt right off the page. It was a pop-up book! I was so excited I forgot all about the dentist.

Pop-up books continued to fascinate Sabuda. He says of this art form, "Picture books were wonderful but I always hoped that one day I could create a pop-up book, too. So I pulled out my old pop-up books and taught myself how to make even better ones as a grown up."

MUSEUM OF TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY: Open 10 AM -5 PM Tue-Sat, open until 8:30 PM on Thu, 1-5 PM Sun. Closed Monday.

ADMISSION FREE

MOODY PLANETARIUM - STAR SHOWS: \$1 adults, \$.50 students, 5 or younger and 60+ Free; LASER SHOWS: \$1 students, \$1.50 adults.

LUBBOCK LAKE LANDMARK: Open 9 AM -5 PM Tuesday-Saturday, 1-5 PM Sunday. Closed Monday • At N. Loop 289 & Clovis Hwy. ADMISSION FREE.

As a scholarship student, Robert Sabuda, earned a B.F.A. in communications design from Pratt Institute in New York City in 1987. Armed with his exceptional talent and a fresh degree, he immediately began working for publishers, eventually gaining the knowledge and experience needed to launch his own publishing career. He has become one of the world's premier pop-up book creators and a most beloved children's book illustrator. Regarding his present work he remarks:

Today I work in my studio in New York City that I share with my partner, children's book creator Matthew Reinhart. We love making books. It's hard work but the best part is not having to worry about making a mess. When being an artist is your job. You can make as many messes as you want to!

The exhibition ***Robert Sabuda: Artist and Paper Engineer*** is organized and circulated by the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature (NCCIL) in Abilene, Texas. The show is comprised of over 50 pieces of original and published art by Robert Sabuda including individual framed works and some pop-up books.

For more information about the Museum or to request special assistance, call the Education Division at (806)742-2432, or email to museum.education@ttu.edu. Stay current on Museum exhibitions and events at www.museum.ttu.edu. For more about the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature, visit www.nccil.org.

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"There's something for everyone at the Museum."