

## Image not part of Tut exhibit: Science Museum

Written by  
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I'm writing in response to "An Open Letter to the Science Museum of Minnesota," published on July 27 and written by Rev. Les Lester from the St. Paul NAACP. The Science Museum is proud to host Tutankhamun: The Golden King and The Great Pharaohs. This is the exhibition's first and only stop in Minnesota. It has reached across North America and features stunning objects from King Tut's tomb, as well as from the tombs of some of the most important rulers throughout 2,000 years of ancient Egyptian history.

Rev. Lester claims that our promotional materials contain artist's renderings and artistic depictions of King Tut. This is not true. All the images associated with the marketing and promotion of this exhibit are photographs of objects found inside King Tut's tomb when it was discovered in 1922. All of our promotional materials, including brochures, feature photos of actual treasures that are on display inside the exhibition.

The Science Museum's King Tut exhibition does not contain a computer generated model of how the Boy King may have looked during his lifetime. What Rev. Lester may be referring to is a scientific computer model likeness of King Tut developed by the National Geographic Society in 2005 and reprinted in your open-letter story. This computer model has not been on display anywhere since 2007 and was part of an entirely different King Tut exhibition hosted by the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.

We invite discussion on the topic of King Tut's African heritage, and encourage readers to join us on Aug. 25 for our final Thursday Night Lecture Series featuring one of the leading scholars on this topic, Dr. Molefi Asante, African American Studies Professor from Temple University. Dr. Asante will present "Tutankhamun, the Young African King and His Family: Context and Reality." Tickets for this lecture and discussion are \$8 and can be purchased by calling our Box Office at (651) 221-9444.