



Dear Colleagues:

The Schenectady Museum and Suits-Bueche Planetarium in Schenectady, New York invites you to the 2008 Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society conference. The conference will take place May 14<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Schenectady Museum and Suits-Bueche Planetarium is located in the Capital District of New York State, just 20 minutes from Albany. Schenectady, New York, is known as the "City that Lights and Hauls the World". It is the home of General Electric and the American Locomotive Company, the first Commercial Radio Station, the first television broadcast, Union College, (which contains the second largest observatory in New York), and Ralph Alpher (one of the "discoverers" of the Big Bang), and The Dudley Observatory, (the oldest independent organization in the country supporting research and education in astronomy and the history of astronomy). Schenectady is also the place where Silly Putty and Drinking Birds were invented, as well as the invention of satellite communications for NASA, and Lumilines!

And just down the road in Malta, is the place where the Space Program actually started, and where a local company is making the repair kits to mend the Shuttle in space. It is that company's repair kits, which made NASA give the "go-ahead" to do the Hubble Servicing Mission.

The Suits-Bueche Planetarium at the Schenectady Museum contains a 30 foot diameter dome and a new GOTO Chronos Space Simulator star machine installed in October of 2006. An East Coast Control Systems automation system was installed in 2003 as part of an extensive renovation project which included 21 new Kodak slide projectors, two new video projectors, automation of all of the existing projectors, a new sound system, new cove lighting, and two 42 inch plasma screens above the planetarium entrance. The planetarium can now project all forms of media up on the dome, including live NASA TV, which can also be shown on the plasma's. The Planetarium seats 60 people.

The Schenectady Museum is a museum about science and technology, and the development of technology. This past year, over 41,000 people visited the museum.

Our Conference Hotel is the Holiday Inn of Schenectady, which is across the street from the Museum.

We are lining up some interesting guest speakers and events, and hope that you will join us for a few days of fun and camaraderie in our facility.

Hoping to see you in May.  
Your Conference Hosts.

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