



CONSTELLATION

Spring 2018, No. 1

Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society Conference 2018

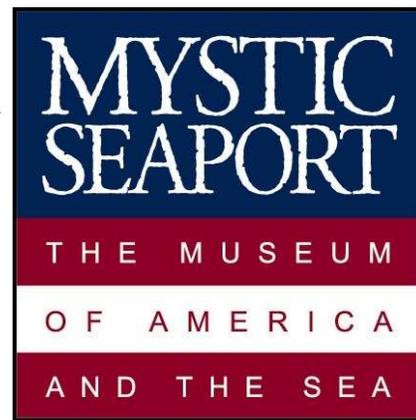
“Full STEAM Ahead!”
Wed-Sat, May 30 – June 2, 2018

Hosted by the Treworgy Planetarium at Mystic Seaport in Mystic, CT

Dear MAPS Member,

The staff and volunteers of the Treworgy Planetarium at Mystic Seaport would like to invite you, MAPS friends and colleagues, to join us from May 30 – June 2, 2018 here in beautiful Mystic, Connecticut for 2018 conference. The gathering, as always, is a great time for MAPS Members to re-connect, brainstorm ideas for education programming, and share with each other all of the wonderful things that we are doing at our home planetariums!

Here in Mystic, we are excited to be able to host our annual conference at the nation’s premier maritime history museum! Since 1961, the Treworgy Planetarium has served as the Seaport’s “science center”, inspiring visitors to draw connections between our maritime history and the world around us. The meeting spaces we will utilize for our workshops and presentations will provide picturesque views of the Mystic River waterfront, with historic vessels dotting the shore in a re-creation of a 19th century coastal New England village.



The theme of this year’s conference is “Full STEAM Ahead!” In the maritime world, this phrase is, “used to indicate that one should proceed with as much speed or energy as possible.” What a fitting way to summarize Astronomy Education in the 21st century! And of course, the reference to STEAM is no accident, as we encourage our workshops, lessons, papers, posters, and panels to celebrate the multidisciplinary approach we all take to fulfill the missions of our various organizations. We hope that, in addition to attending our conference, you will consider submitting a proposal to present a talk, lesson, workshop, poster, or panel discussion.

Continuing a long-standing MAPS tradition, our annual banquet will be highlighted by the Margaret Noble Address. This year’s address will be given by Patty Seaton, the Planetarium Specialist at the Howard B. Owens Science Center in Lanham, MD.

We are pleased to announce that, with the generous support of numerous sponsors, we will be able to maintain the low registration costs from past MAPS conferences. The full registration is \$150 if paid by April 30, and you can register by mail or online through the MAPS website (www.mapsplanetarium.org). We hope to see you all here in Mystic at the end of May!

Brian J. Koehler & Your MAPS Executive Board
Supervisor, Treworgy Planetarium at Mystic Seaport
Conference Host

For important information about the conference and upcoming deadlines, see page 4!

CONTACT!

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President's Message

Dear MAPS Members,

Happy Spring!

As we think about rebirth and renewal this time of year, I am pleased to report results from the recent election for Board of Directors. Congratulations to Lee Ann Hennig and Paul Krupinski who will be continuing their service and to Patty Seaton who will be returning to the Executive Board. These new terms start at the business meeting during our MAPS 2018 conference. I'd like to thank all of our members who ran and everyone who cast a vote. Remember that MAPS is your society, so active participation is key to its success.

Also with spring and the anticipation of the return of warmer temperatures, anticipation and excitement is building for our MAPS 2018 Conference! As you remember, this year's conference is being hosted by the Treworgy Planetarium at the Mystic Seaport in Mystic, CT and takes place May 30 - June 2. Registration information and materials are available on the MAPS website at www.mapsplanetarium.org

I recently had a chance to visit the Seaport, and I am excited for all of you to visit this amazing historic area on the beautiful Mystic River. This year's theme is "Full STEAM Ahead!" and you will notice several themed sessions in addition to general sessions. Please don't underestimate how interested your colleagues would be in hearing from YOU at MAPS 2018. In addition to delegate presentations, there will be interesting sponsor presentations, invited speakers, and the Margaret Noble Address, which will be presented by Patty Seaton!

We are also trying something different this year. Instead of asking for presenters to give us longer papers for a Proceedings of the conference -- and rarely getting these papers -- we are asking for more manageable summaries of just a few paragraphs. We think that this change will enable us to have a more detailed record of the presentations than just the program without putting too much of a time burden on the presenters.

Additionally, any conference presenters who then submit related article to The Constellation will be eligible for several door-prize-like prizes! More information about that when you submit your Proposal to Present at the conference.

Lastly, Brian Koehler and his team at the Treworgy Planetarium have been working very hard to plan an exciting, fun, worth-while conference. I hope to see you there!!

Kevin Williams
planetarium@buffalostate.edu

East Kentucky Science Center Prestonsburg, KY By Steven LJ Russo

Well, once the Solar Eclipse got out of the way, we were able to resume our regular programming. We ran eight Summer camps with topics involving colors, machines, elements, water, Solar science, engineering, robotics, and Astronautics. We had our annual Halloween Open House, attended by 1,200 people, which included planetarium shows, our Fright Light Laser Show, and “spooky” hands on science activities.



Our annual Science Fair in November played host to over 20 schools from six different counties in Eastern Kentucky, and in December we had our annual run of Season of Light and Laser Holidays.

In January, we had our media premier of “Black Holes, The Other Side of Infinity “from Spitz, and in February we received our new AVI Live Laser Controller which will allow us to run our Sky Lase manually for special programs.

In March, my staff and I had a tour of the Morehead (KY) Space Science Center at Morehead University. Most folks are not aware that Kentucky’s biggest export is Aerospace products (and you thought it was Bourbon), and only Washington and California export more. The Morehead Space Science Center is also a leader in Cube-sat development and its 21-meter dish is actually part of NASA’s Deep Space Network. Staff from the Space Science Center will be partnering with the East Kentucky Science Center for Astronomy Day activities this month.



MAPS Conference 2018

Continued from Page 1

Important Conference Deadlines and Information:

- Deadline for Early Registration: Monday, April 30 (Late Registration Fee \$40)
- Deadline for proposals to present papers and workshops: Monday, April 30
- Hotel Deadline: Monday, April 30
- For more information about the conference see the [MAPS website](#).

ACCOMMODATIONS:

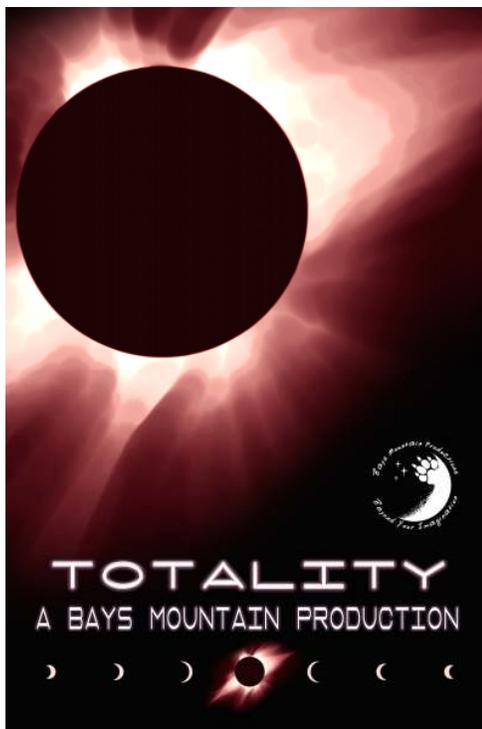
We have secured a block of rooms at the **Hilton Mystic**, which is exactly one mile away from Mystic Seaport:

- Rate for Wednesday and Thursday nights (May 30-31) = \$139.00
- Rate for Friday and Saturday nights (June 1-2) = \$220.00



These group rates are valid until **April 30, 2018**, and after that time all unbooked rooms will be released to the public. Mention the “MAPS Conference” when booking to receive the group rate. Hotel rooms are at a premium in the Mystic area following Memorial Day, so be sure to book soon!

To book a room visit the [Hilton Mystic website](#).



CONSTELLATION DEADLINES

The Constellation is published quarterly near the equinoxes and solstices. Please keep in mind the following deadlines:

Cover Date	Deadline
March 2018	Friday, Mar. 2
June 2018	Friday, Jun. 8
Sep. 2018	Friday, Sep. 7
Dec. 2018	Friday, Dec. 7

Submissions should be sent to the editor:

Kevin Conod
(973) 596-6609
kdconod@yahoo.com

Red LEDs for Star Maps

The York Learning Center Planetarium offers live programs on how to read a star map in the theater with the intent the guest will be able to take the star map home and use it outdoors. The star maps from skymaps.com are provided to the guests for use in the theater and to take home. The presentation has been difficult to balance the light level in the theater to be able to read the star map and to be able to see the stars on the dome. Only the brightest stars could be seen.

Last year, the York County Astronomical Society purchased 300 mini LED red lights (available on Amazon as "Dotop 10 Pack 1400MCD Mini LED Flashlight Torch Light Lamp Keychain Red Light") which are used in the program, one handed out to each family or group of three people to share. The lights are theirs to take home. The battery in the light lasts for about 24 hours of use.

In the planetarium, the guests are able to use the red LED lights to protect their night vision, view the star map, and see the stars on the dome. With these red lights, the guests are able to understand how to use the maps much faster, in a few minutes we can go through the features of the map, allowing them to find the brighter stars and constellations, then see how the nearby dimmer constellations can be found. The guests demonstrate their ability to find many constellations after a few minutes.

Todd Ullery
York County Astronomical Society
Volunteer Planetarium Director
York Learning Center Planetarium
www.ycas.org



War of the Worlds

While trying to think of new ideas for upcoming fall programming, I was reminded that this year is the 80th anniversary of the famous Halloween radio broadcast by Orson Wells. Since it is largely set in New Jersey, it'd be an appropriate topic for our planetarium.

I recalled that occasionally planetariums have played the original broadcast under the dome, and that I've heard of live reenactments of the radio play being done on stage as well around Halloween.

If you have done anything like this in your dome I'd like to hear from you. I'm particularly interested in any visuals you used to help illustrate the story.

Kevin Conod,
Planetarium Manager, Newark Museum
kconod@newarkmuseum.org



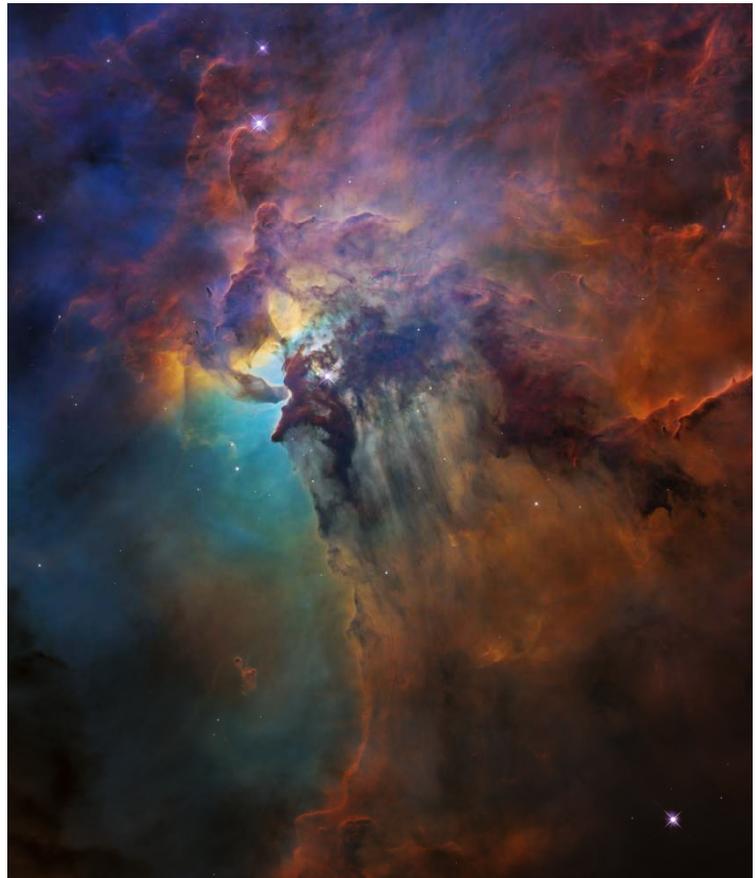
HUBBLE @ 28

This colorful image, taken by NASA's Hubble Space Telescope, celebrates the Earth-orbiting observatory's 28th anniversary of viewing the heavens, giving us a window seat to the universe's extraordinary tapestry of stellar birth and destruction.

At the center of the photo, a monster young star (Herschel 36) 200,000 times brighter than our Sun is blasting powerful ultraviolet radiation and hurricane-like stellar winds, carving out a fantasy landscape of ridges, cavities, and mountains of gas and dust.

This mayhem is all happening at the heart of the Lagoon Nebula, a vast stellar nursery located 4,000 light-years away and visible in binoculars simply as a smudge of light with a bright core.

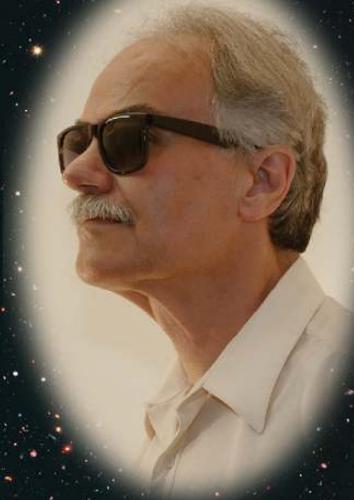
The Hubble view shows off the bubble's 3D structure. Dust pushed away from the star reveals the glowing oxygen gas (in blue) behind the blown-out cavity. Herschel 36's brilliant light is illuminating the top of the cavity (in yellow). The reddish hue that dominates part of the region is glowing nitrogen. The dark purple areas represent a mixture of hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen.



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The ORPHEUS sun, moon, and planets are bright and precisely positioned for any date and time. The moon is even projected from an embedded video projector to show ultra-thin young crescent moons, or lunar eclipses in full color! All 88 constellation outlines are projected by the ORPHEUS, allowing it to be used as a stand-alone projector, or as part of a GOTO HYBRID Planetarium™ system with the full HYBRID control console that operators love for live programming. Digital horizon shutters in the compact, 19 inch (48cm) starball allow the ORPHEUS to be used in tilted or horizontal domes from 26 feet (8m) to 69 feet (21m) in diameter.

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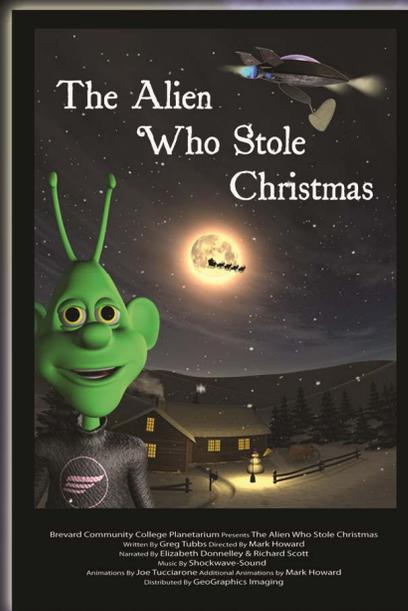
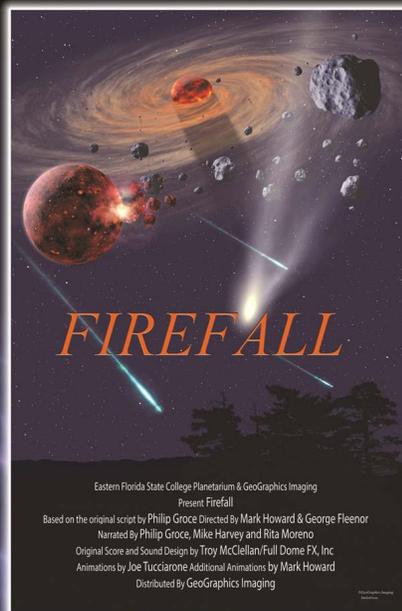


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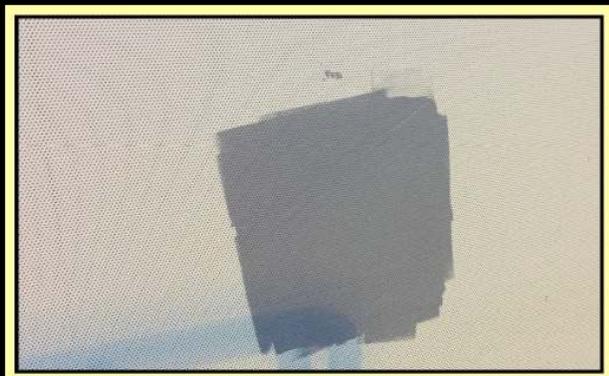


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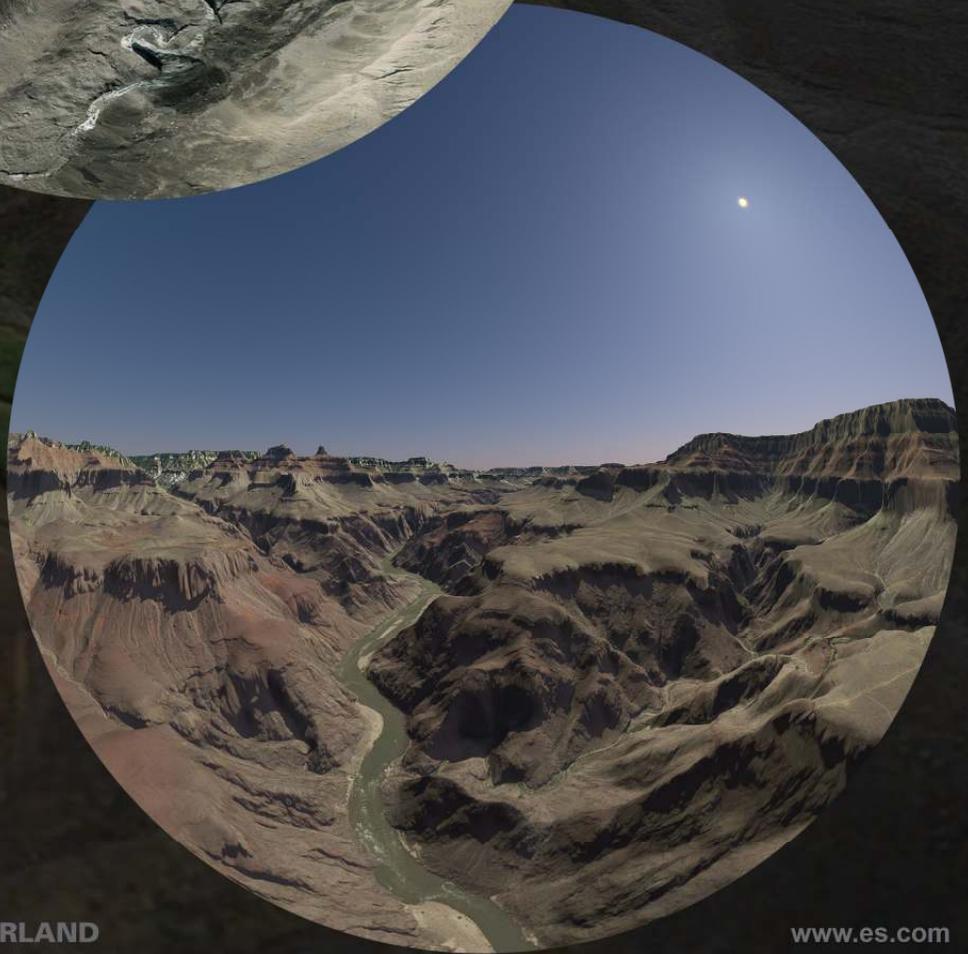
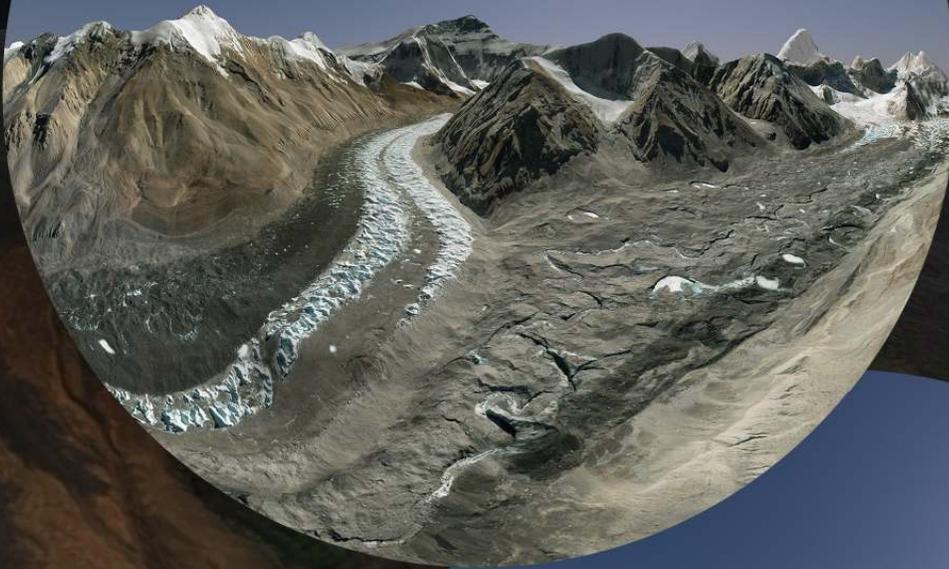
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In Memoriam

Gloria A. Villalobos

February, 5 1968—March 11, 2018

Gloria Ariane Villalobos was born on February 5th, 1968 to loving parents Emetrio “Emmett” Villalobos and Lucille Villarreal in Stockton California. Her father Emmett was in the military so Gloria began to travel the world at just seven weeks old. After high school Gloria went on to attend Washington State University where she attained her B.A. in Science. She then went on to receive her Master’s Degree in Astronomy.



Gloria began her planetarium career at the Vanderbilt Planetarium on Long Island. She then worked for the American Museum of Natural History. Gloria finally settled in Lakewood, NJ. Here is where she worked for the Ocean County College at the Robert J. Novins Planetarium. Gloria’s love for all things Astronomy led her to teach the course at Ocean County College as well as she toured local elementary schools with her “Mad Scientist” program to advocate the importance of science to our youth.

Surviving are her parents; Emmett and Lucille, stepfather; Joe Villarreal; brother; Marcus Lowe, step siblings; and her aunts and uncle. A memorial service was held March 18 at the Robert J. Novins Planetarium at Ocean County College in Toms River, NJ. Gloria was interred in San Joaquin Catholic Cemetery, Stockton California

Walter H. Tenschert

July 9, 1936—December 19, 2017

Walter Tenschert ran the planetarium at Thomas Jefferson High School in Fairfax County, VA from 1967 until his retirement in 1988. He was MAPS Treasurer 1975-1978. He was also involved in IPS, serving as membership chair starting in 1974, and added the duties of treasurer when he was elected in 1977. He served in this post until 1985.

Walter H Tenschert, age 81, passed suddenly on Tuesday, December 19 at the Beebe Medical Center after a brief illness. Walter was born in Loudonville OH on July 9, 1936. Walt and Zeke, as many knew him, retired from teaching at the Fairfax County VA School District. During the time as teacher, he also held a part time position with the Humane Society of the US in Washington DC. He then continued working full time with the HSUS until moving permanently to Rehoboth Beach. Walt eventually was employed as a surveyor with the City of Rehoboth Beach DE. He, subsequently, took a position with the Delaware River and Bay Authority in Lewes DE where he remained until his untimely death. His military service included four years of active duty in the US Army and was honorably discharged. Walt was a member of the American Legion Post 5 in Rehoboth Beach DE.

Walt was a hard working individual all of his life and during his casual time away from employment, he enjoyed going on cruises with his friends. His journeys took him to many countries. He loved classical music and enjoyed spending time with his many friends at Rigby's in Rehoboth Beach.

Walt was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Louwilda Tenschert as well as his brother Joe. He is survived by his sister Martha (Alan) Carson of Columbus Oh, his sister-in-law, Barbara Tenschert of Loudonville OH, nephew Tom (Karen) Tenschert of Waynesville Mo, Jeff Campbell of Ashland OH and a niece, Marcia Carson of Columbus OH, as well as his very dear friends in the Rehoboth Beach area.



FREE Astronomy Exhibit Apply by May 1!

Description:

In collaboration with NASA, the National Informal STEM Education Network (NISE Net) is pleased to offer eligible institutions the opportunity to apply for a free Sun, Earth, Universe exhibition. The Sun, Earth, Universe exhibition is intended for long-term display in museums across the United States, where it will engage millions of people. Fifty copies of the exhibition will be fabricated; all copies will be identical and distributed to eligible NISE Network partners through a competitive application process.

Developed for museum audiences:

- Fun, hands-on, and engaging
- Designed for families with children ages 6-12
- Evaluated with museum visitors
- Reviewed by subject matter experts

Specifications:

- Footprint: 500-600 square feet (46-56 square meters)
- Layout: modular design and flexible configurations
- Signage: bilingual English and Spanish
- Power: one exhibit component requires electricity
- Location: indoor use; not for portable outreach events
- Setup: components fit through standard door and elevator



Application and award process:

The NISE Network plans to produce 50 copies of the exhibition and distribute them free of charge to eligible institutions in the United States through a competitive award process. Institutions may apply on their own or with a sharing plan among multiple institutions. Timeline: **Applications are due May 1, 2018** Copies will be distributed July 2018 to July 2019

Commitments:

Successful applicants must agree to:

- Display the complete exhibition for at least one year
- Own and maintain the exhibition
- Report yearly for up to three years
- Sign a display and ownership agreement
- More information: <http://www.nisenet.org/sunearthuniverse>
- Contact: exhibits@nisenet.org