



space odyssey

07.10.15 volunteer update

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space odyssey news

PLUTO PLUTO PLUTO!

The New Horizons flyby/nearest approach of Pluto will be next Tuesday morning...at 5:49 AM our time! Woo-hoo! That day, Steve Lee and Dimitri Klebe may be helping with presentations in Space Odyssey, this is TBD, but for those working this day, don't be surprised if you see them in there. We will have Pluto/New Horizons-centric info flowing on the Space Screen all next week, probably including a stream from NASA TV among other things on Tuesday especially.

Look below to see the plethora of programming that NASA has planned for the day and feel free to use NASA TV on the Space Screen if you know of something especially relevant to the New Horizons mission. And don't forget about the NASA Eyes app that's on all the laptops. Tom Reiners of the Thursday AM team just updated all the NASA Eyes apps so that they have the latest imagery/data.

Happy Pluto visit all! If you have questions, comments, please let me know. Thanks to you all for all your work to get the news about this historic mission out to our guests!

NASA TV coverage about this amazing mission has already started this week, read below for details:

July 08, 2015

MEDIA ADVISORY M15-104

NASA Announces Updated Television Coverage, Media Activities for Pluto Flyby

NASA is inviting media to cover the New Horizons spacecraft's closest approach and July 14 Pluto flyby from the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) in Laurel, Maryland, site of the mission operations center.

NASA will provide flyby coverage on NASA Television, the [agency's website](#) and its [social media](#) accounts as the spacecraft closes in on Pluto in the coming days. The schedule for event coverage is subject to change, with daily updates posted online.

Highlights of the current coverage schedule, all in Eastern Daylight time, include:

July 8 - 10

11:30 a.m. - Final approach to Pluto; daily mission updates on NASA TV

July 11 - 12

11:30 a.m. - Final approach to Pluto; live mission updates on NASA TV

Monday, July 13

11 a.m. to noon - Media briefing: Mission Status and What to Expect; live on NASA TV

2:30 to 5:30 p.m. - Panels: APL's Endeavors in Space and the latest on New Horizons (no NASA TV coverage)

Tuesday, July 14

7:30 to 8 a.m. - Arrival at Pluto Countdown Program; live on NASA TV

At approximately 7:49 a.m., New Horizons is scheduled to be as close as the spacecraft will get to Pluto, approximately 7,800 miles (12,500 kilometers) above the surface, after a journey of more than nine years and three billion miles. For much of the day, New Horizons will be out of communication with mission control as it gathers data about Pluto and its moons.

The moment of closest approach will be marked during the live NASA TV broadcast that includes a countdown and discussion of what's expected next as New Horizons makes its way past Pluto and potentially dangerous debris.

8 to 9 a.m. - Media briefing, image release; live on NASA TV

9 a.m. to noon - Interview Opportunities (no NASA TV coverage)

Informal group briefings and availability for one-on-one interviews. An updated schedule will be posted in the New Horizons Media Center. Media may call into the media center for phone interviews during newsroom hours.

Noon to 3 p.m. - Panel Discussions (no NASA TV coverage)

- New Horizons mission overview and history
- Pluto system discoveries on approach
- Mariner 4 and Pluto: 50 years to the day

8:30 to 9:15 p.m. - NASA TV program, Phone Home, broadcast from APL Mission Control
NASA TV will share the suspenseful moments of this historic event with the public and museums around the world. The New Horizons spacecraft will send a preprogrammed signal after the closest approach. The mission team on Earth should receive the signal by about 9:02 p.m. When New Horizons "phones home," there will be a celebration of its successful flyby and the anticipation of data to come in the days and months ahead.

9:30 to 10 p.m. - Media Briefing: New Horizons Health and Mission Status; live on NASA TV

Wednesday, July 15

Noon to 3 p.m. - Interview Opportunities (no NASA TV coverage)

Informal group briefings and availability for one-on-one interviews. An updated schedule will be posted in the New Horizons Media Center. Media may call into the media center for phone interviews during newsroom hours.

3 to 4 p.m. - Media Briefing: Seeing Pluto in a New Light; live on NASA TV

Release of close-up images of Pluto's surface and moons, along with initial science team reactions.

New Horizons is the first mission to the Kuiper Belt, a gigantic zone of icy bodies and mysterious small objects orbiting beyond Neptune. This region also is known as the "third" zone of our solar system, beyond the inner rocky planets and outer gas giants.

APL designed, built and operates the New Horizons spacecraft, and manages the mission for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington. The Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio leads the science team, payload operations and encounter science planning. New Horizons is part of the New Frontiers Program, managed by NASA's Marshall Space Flight

Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

For NASA TV schedules, satellite coordinates, and links to streaming video, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov/nasatv>

The public can follow the path of the spacecraft in coming days in real time with a visualization of the actual trajectory data, using NASA's online [Eyes on Pluto](#).

Follow the New Horizons mission on [Twitter](#) and use the hashtag #PlutoFlyby to join the conversation. Live updates will be available on the mission [Facebook page](#).

For more information on the New Horizons mission, including fact sheets, schedules, video and images, visit:

<http://www.nasa.gov/newhorizons>

or

<http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/plutotoolkit.cfm>

-end-

NASA news releases and other information are available automatically by sending an e-mail message with the subject line *subscribe* to hqnews-request@newsletters.nasa.gov.

DAVE B'S SCHEDULE

I will be out of town July 10 thru July 13. Happy weekend all!

MISSING KEYS ETC.

If you have any of these, please return them ASAP:

Meteorite Cart Key

Astronaut Assistant Key

Laser pointer

Space Screen Remote

Thank you!

PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER SUPERCHILL

Please put everything back in its proper place after doing Mission: Superchill. Things were in disarray last Sunday morning. If you need help with this, let me or any staff member know.

Thank you!

WEATHER CENTRAL

The Van der Graaf generator is back in action and the laptop issue has been fixed as well. Enjoy!

TELESCOPE MOON FILTER REPLACED

Thanks to Naomi Pequette for purchasing a new moon filter! It should make its way up to the

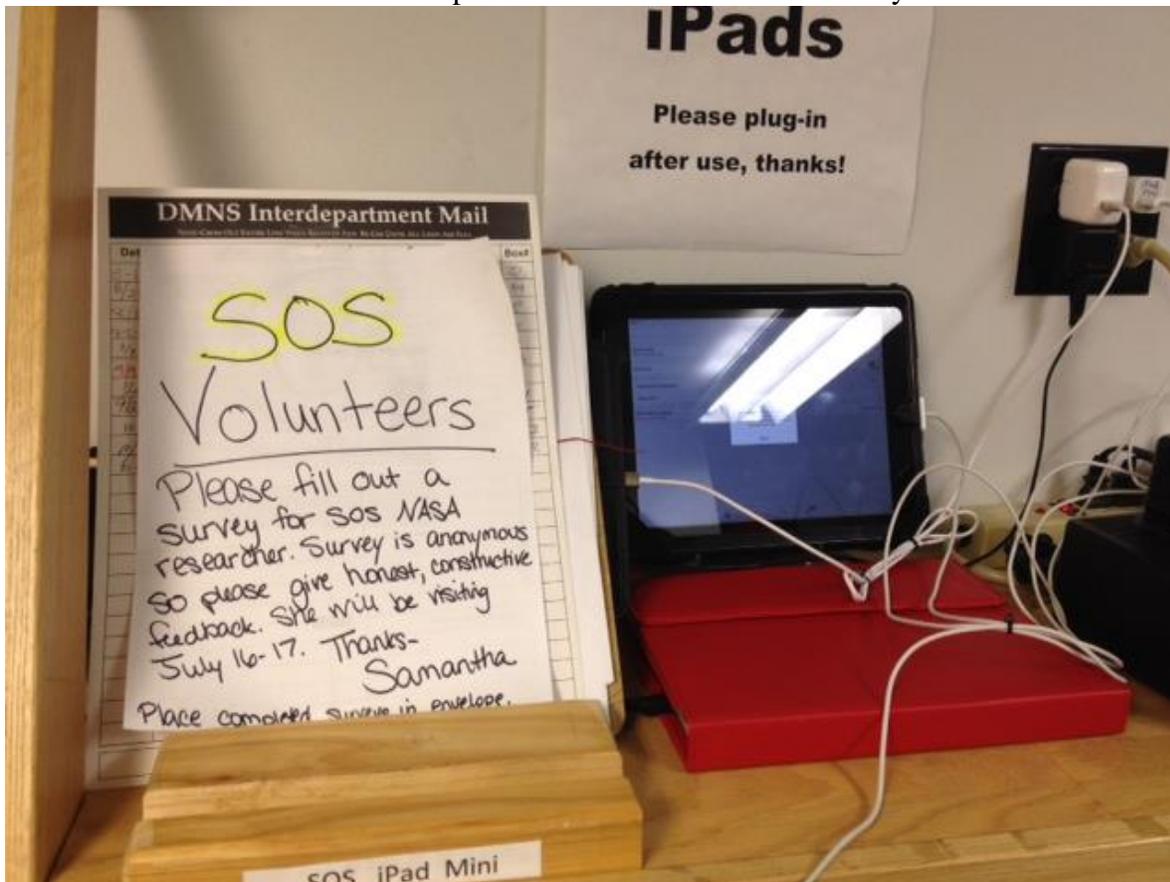
Sky Terrace storage shortly. Please treat it with care.

MARS LANDING GAME

We've been having some issues with this game. If you encounter problems with it, please use the phone in the SO Storage Room to call Tech and let them know. Right now, it's back in action.

NASA WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK ABOUT SOS PROGRAMS

Stephanie Schollaert-Uz from UMD and NASA will be visiting on July 16-17 to learn more about how we use our SOS and engage in some conversations with our volunteers and staff around our SOS. As part of her trip, she wants feedback from you all about your experience using the Climate Bits datasets on the SOS. If you'd like to provide feedback to her, fill out one of the survey forms in the SO Storage room and place it in the big envelope provided. Stephanie will also be doing a special SOS presentation on July 16 at 2 PM, see details below in the Space Science Lectures section. See the pic below to learn where the surveys are located.



IR SCREEN DISPLAY REDUX

We've been getting good feedback about this latest scheme for the IR table displays. We are now using the black and white scheme which, according to Dimitri Klebe, provides a very good view of what the IR cameras are actually seeing--and with finer detail in guests' faces. Some have said they thought it was broken, but guests seem to also get it. When I queried guests over the past week, they all seem to understand that the lighter areas are "hotter" and the darker/blacker areas are "cooler." Please let me know if you have any feedback.

NEW MERCURY PIC ON THE WAY

We will be installing a new picture of the planet Mercury on the "planet wall" near the Space Screen in the coming weeks. This picture utilizes data from the MESSENGER mission and is in part due to feedback from a guest who works on MESSENGER telling a volunteer who then let me know. So, keep the feedback coming! Enjoy!

SOS SLIDESHOW

Kim Evans is working on getting the slide show up and running. With 500+ slides, it may take a bit.

COOL STUFF ON THE WEB

[What the night sky would look like if you could see every asteroid.](#)

RECENTLY ADDED SCIENCE ON A SPHERE DATASETS

<http://sos.noaa.gov/Datasets/list.php?category=All&type=&sort=DateAdded&order=DESC>

Our system is updated by NOAA with the latest, greatest stuff every Monday for your viewing pleasure, though occasionally, the latest datasets aren't available right away. If you encounter an issue, let me know.

NASA CLIMATE UPDATE

<http://climate.nasa.gov/news/>

SCFD COMMUNITY FREE DAY CALENDAR

The Museum is offering 12 Community Free Days in 2015, made possible by the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District. As part of the Museum's agreement to receive funds from SCFD, which account for a significant portion of the Museum's operating budget, the Museum offers "community free days" throughout the year to allow those who can't afford admission the privilege to visit DMNS. Below are the dates for the 2015 free days. To learn more about SCFD, [click here.](#)

- Sunday, July 26
- Monday, August 17
- Sunday, September 27
- Monday, October 19
- Monday, November 9

trainings and meetings

MISCONCEPTIONS IN ASTRONOMY TRAINING

Monday July 20

6:30 PM to 8 PM

Food and drink provided

RSVP to Dave Blumenstock

As you may know, our guests and the public at large, may have misconceptions about the

workings of celestial mechanics such as the changing seasons. Dr. Ka Chun Yu, Curator of Space Science DMNS, will be presenting this evening. For many years, he has been researching how people learn and conceive of astronomical concepts and we hope this training will help you understand where our guests are coming from as well as some common misconceptions held by the public.

space science lectures & events

SUMMER SCI-FI FILM SERIES

[Click here to learn more and buy tickets.](#)

60 MINUTES IN SPACE

Wednesday July 29

7 PM

FREE

Go "behind the stories" in space science using the best images and animation available to help understand new developments. Seating is limited to first come, first served. Please use the Evening entrance on the west side of the Museum.

SPECIAL SOS PRESENTATION FROM NASA AND UMD SCIENTIST

Thursday July 16

2 PM

SOS in Space Odyssey

[Stephanie Schollaert-Uz](#) from UMD and NASA will be visiting DMNS on July 16-17 to learn more about how we use our SOS and engage in some conversations with our volunteers and staff around our SOS.

She is going to be giving an SOS presentation at 2pm on Thursday, 7/16 about Earth System Science and El Nino. Please join us!

Please feel free to pass this invite along to anyone else who might be interested.

SCIENCE LOUNGE PLUTO PARTY

Planet or not, Pluto needs a party! Celebrate the infamous dwarf planet on a journey through our solar system. Size up the stats for what defines a planet. Raise a glass and gaze out into the night sky through telescopes and learn about the New Horizons mission that offers us a peek at petite Pluto.

Date/Time:

Thursday, July 16, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Ages:

21+

Tickets:

\$10 member, \$12 nonmember

RESERVATION INFO

Volunteers have the opportunity to attend most After Hours programs priced at the \$8 member/\$10 nonmember rate for free on a space-available basis! Volunteers always receive the member rate for all other Adult Programs. As of May 12, please call Guest Services at 303.370.6000 to make a reservation.

Guest Services is open daily, 9:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Admission to 60 Minutes in Space is free and is on a first come, first seated basis.

On the evening of the program, please enter through the same entrance as our guests and pick up your ticket from the will-call cashier. Thank you for your ongoing support and enthusiasm for Adult Programs!

museum news and events

RAINBOW ALLEY YOUTH CAREER EVENT JULY 10

As part of our ongoing collaboration with the LGBT Center of Colorado, the LGBT-rexes and Ally-saurus staff affinity group will be hosting a small cohort of 20 youth participants from the Center's Rainbow Alley *Summer Academy* on Friday, July 10. The focus of the event is to expose these youth to different career possibilities in organizations like DMNS, especially where LGBTQ+ employees are valued and treated equally.

SCIENCE ATRIUM FLOOR REPAIR UPDATE

The work on the storm sewer continues in the Science Atrium. Excavation around the pipe has been completed and the fittings examined for integrity. A small amount of water was observed on Tuesday which prompted a change in scope so that the old fittings will be replaced with a different (sturdier) connection. RK Mechanical has ordered the new fittings which we expect to be delivered on Thursday. These will be installed and the pipe encased in cementitious material (flow-fill). The hole will then be filled using the excavated material and the pea gravel from the B1 level and a new concrete slab laid on top. Work will extend into early next week.

TICKET STUBS WANTED

Our Exhibits team needs your help to collect used tickets, pamphlets or flyers from popular Denver institutions and attractions. They will be used as props in our newest DMNS Field Trip Adventure and will not be returned. Please drop them off at my desk by **Friday 7/24**.

These are just some examples, but they'll gladly take others:

- Butterfly Pavilion
- Botanic Gardens
- Capitol Building

- US Mint
- Elitch Gardens
- Lakeside Amusement Park
- Convention Center
- Coors Field
- Sports Authority Field at Mile High Stadium
- Aquarium
- Music Venues
- Union Station (train or bus tickets)
- DCPA

MUSEUM LECTURE AND PROGRAMMING INFORMATION

[Click here for Evening Lectures](#)

[Click here for Gates Planetarium Daily Show Schedule](#)

[Click here for Museum IMAX information](#)

volunteer enrichment committee

Click here for more information about VEC events:

<http://volunteers.dmns.org/events/>

Or see the bulletin board in the Volunteer Lounge for more info.

Dave Blumenstock

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Join the Museum's Online Community

www.dmns.org