



space odyssey

07.31.15 volunteer update

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space odyssey news

FREE DAY KUDOS

Thanks to everyone who helped out on the last Free Day, great work everybody!

GALAXY STAGE ISSUES

We seem to have figured out the problems with the Galaxy Stage laptop and it seems to be linked to the default resolution settings. So, if you perform Superchill or Weather Central, please run through the show first to make sure everything works properly. If you have any problems, please write a note up on the whiteboard. Thanks!

MISCONCEPTIONS IN ASTRONOMY LECTURE ON PORTAL

If you'd like to watch Ka Chun's excellent talk about astronomical misconceptions, [please click here.](#)

When you get to that page, you'll see his talk on the top right side of that page. Thanks much to Ka Chun Yu for presenting his talk and to Kim Evans for filming, editing and posting the talk on the Portal.

TELESCOPE TRAINING UPDATE

We now have several volunteers on several different shifts training on telescopes, which is fantastic. For a variety of reasons, including the weather changing in the Fall, we have decided that we will not take on any new trainees for the program until Spring 2016. It just makes more sense to start training then so that people have a lot of time to practice in the summer, which is our prime solar viewing season. If you're interested in learning telescopes, please get in touch next Spring. If you have questions or concerns, please let me know. Thanks to you, all our trainers, telescope team members and staff support for keeping this wonderful program going strong!

GPS CART MAKEOVER

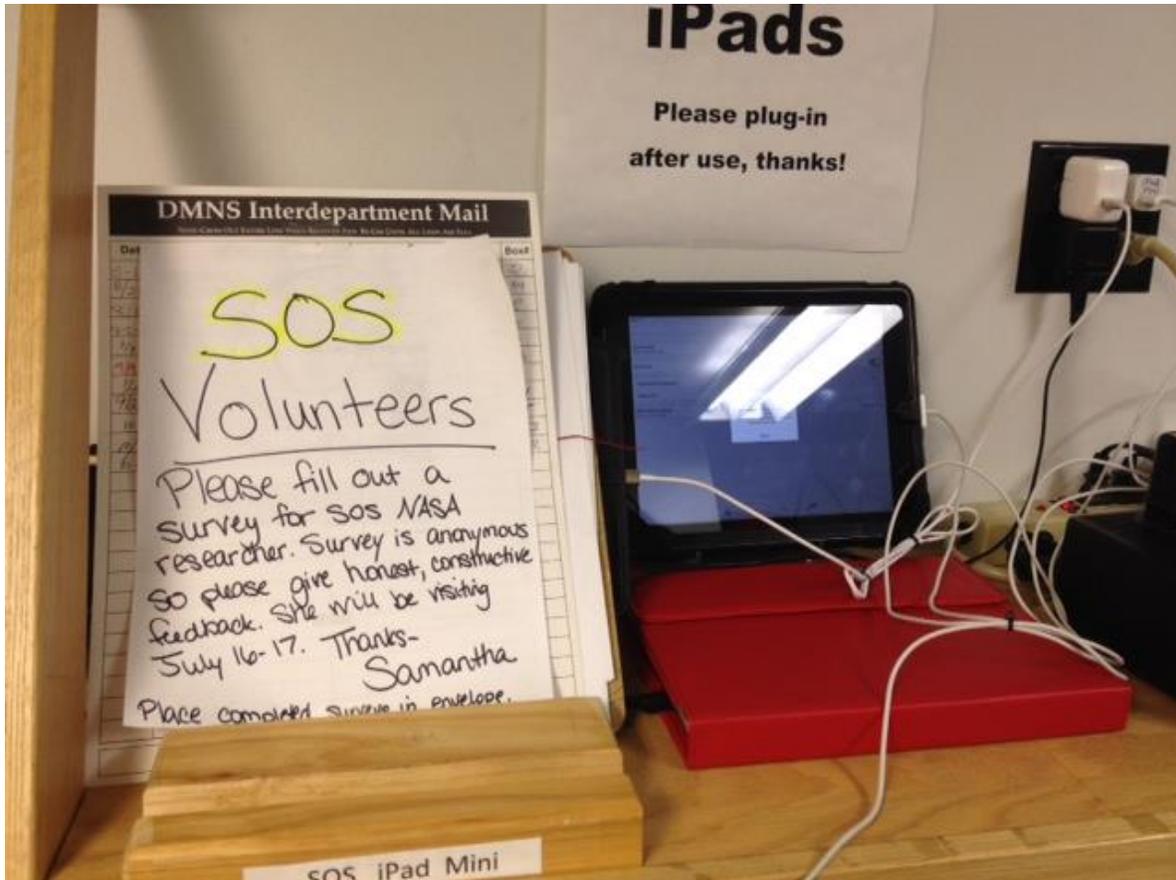
Thanks to Exhibits, the GPS cart has a fresh coat of paint and they also filled in the various gouges in its exterior. It is now back in the 2003 storage room for you to use and enjoy. By the way, we also received some great feedback from a couple of SO volunteers about updating the big laminated cards on it as well as the manual. We're now working on both of those items. Ergo, the laminate cards have been temporarily removed from the cart until next week.

NEW VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION SATURDAY

This Saturday, we'll be hosting a New Volunteer Orientation in Ricketson auditorium starting at 9 AM and ending at 1:30 PM. I'll be in as well to help facilitate it and will be staying until 4 PM or so.

NASA WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK ABOUT SOS PROGRAMS

Stephanie Schollaert-Uz from UMD and NASA visited us in mid-July 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 aren't familiar with Climate Bits, you can see a playlist by the same name on the playlist page of the iPad SOS app. If you'd like to provide feedback to her, please fill out one of the survey forms in the SO Storage room and place it in the big envelope provided. See the pic below to learn where the surveys are located. Thanks!



NEW SOLAR VIEWING TELESCOPE SIGNAGE

Thanks to the Exhibits team for helping us get some new, more durable signage for the telescope program--this sign is a new replacement for the Sun Fun Facts sign.

COOL STUFF ON THE WEB

[Effervescence in space aboard the ISS](#)

[Podcast: Pleiades and Javanese culture by Dhita Petit, Friday PM SO volunteer](#)

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](#).

- Monday, August 17
- Sunday, September 27
- Monday, October 19

- Monday, November 9

trainings and meetings

SOS USER GROUP MEETING

August 3, 2015

4:30 PM

Meet in SO Briefing Room

The purpose of the SOS User Group is for SOS enthusiasts to meet and learn from each other about how to better facilitate the SOS as well as to gain new knowledge about the SOS system and the related content.

space science lectures & events

SUMMER SCI-FI FILM SERIES

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

60 MINUTES IN SPACE

Wednesday August 26

7 PM

Gates Planetarium

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.

What Is Relativity? Einstein's Ideas and Why They Matter

Thursday August 27

7 PM

Ricketson Auditorium

\$8 Member/\$10 Non-member

As best-selling author and astrophysicist Jeffrey Bennett points out on the very first page of *What Is Relativity?*, the truth is that black holes don't suck. Bennett begins his accessible and entertaining introduction to Einstein's theories by taking you on an imaginary journey to a black hole and describing the amazing phenomena that you would really experience on that trip. For Einstein and our understanding of the modern world, it's all relative! Get an in-depth look at how the theory of relativity shapes much of our contemporary relationship to the universe. A book sale and signing will follow the program. [Click here to learn more and to register.](#)

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

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE UNDOCUMENTED

Thursday, September 3

7 PM

\$8 Member/\$10 Non-member

The U.S.-Mexico border is in the news and the subject of great, and at times heated, debate. What is largely lost in the headlines is a vital long-term, nuanced understanding of the modern immigrant experience. Jason De León is assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Michigan and director of the Undocumented Migration Project. For the past five years, De León has used path-breaking forensic, archaeological, and ethnographic research to examine the trek north through harsh desert, putting a human face on the real life and death struggles of migrants. Hear tragic and exhilarating stories as narrated by De León's compelling research from one of the most significant, dangerous, and clandestine places in the world. This is the inaugural talk for the George McJunkin Lecture, recognizing the African American cowboy who discovered bison bones in Folsom, New Mexico, that eventually made archaeological history.

Image copyright Michael Wells. [Click here to register.](#)

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.

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www.dmns.org