



# space odyssey

## 08.14.15 volunteer update

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## space odyssey news

### **FREE DAY MONDAY AUGUST 17**

We will probably be pretty busy. If you're able to help out, please come on in. Thanks in advance!

### **EAST HIGH SHUTTLE SERVICE ENDS AUGUST 21**

### **MY SCHEDULE**

This weekend: I'll be in Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon to start new team members.

This Fall: I'll be taking a leave of absence this Fall, leaving September 1 and returning January 4, 2016. I'll be sending out a detailed letter next week to let you all know about who will be supporting you in my absence as well as why I'm taking this leave. But I wanted to give you a heads-up in case I haven't had the chance to talk to you yet.

## **PORTAL UPDATES**

Samantha and Naomi will be reviewing and updating all the manuals on the Portal throughout the Fall. This is a huge job, so many thanks to them both for taking this on. They hope to have everything finished by the end of the year.

## **GPS LAMINATE CARDS**

Steve still has these so we can update them. We received some great feedback from a couple of SO volunteers about updating the big laminated cards on the GPS cart 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.

## **MARS SOS PLAYLIST**

We hope to have training materials posted on the Portal in the near future. These materials include a detailed script and background information that will help you facilitate this show. Thanks again to Michael and Steve et al. for all their hard work on this project!

## **ESCALATOR PROJECT STARTS THIS WEEKEND**

From James Calder, Building Operations:

"After two years of research, planning, and preparation, we're ready to execute the construction phase of our escalator project.

Early this Saturday and Sunday morning, barricades and safety netting will be erected around the south bank of escalators. This work will be completed before we open. By Monday morning, the south bank of escalators will be fully enclosed and construction underway.

The north escalators will remain in service and move in the up direction while the south bank is under construction.

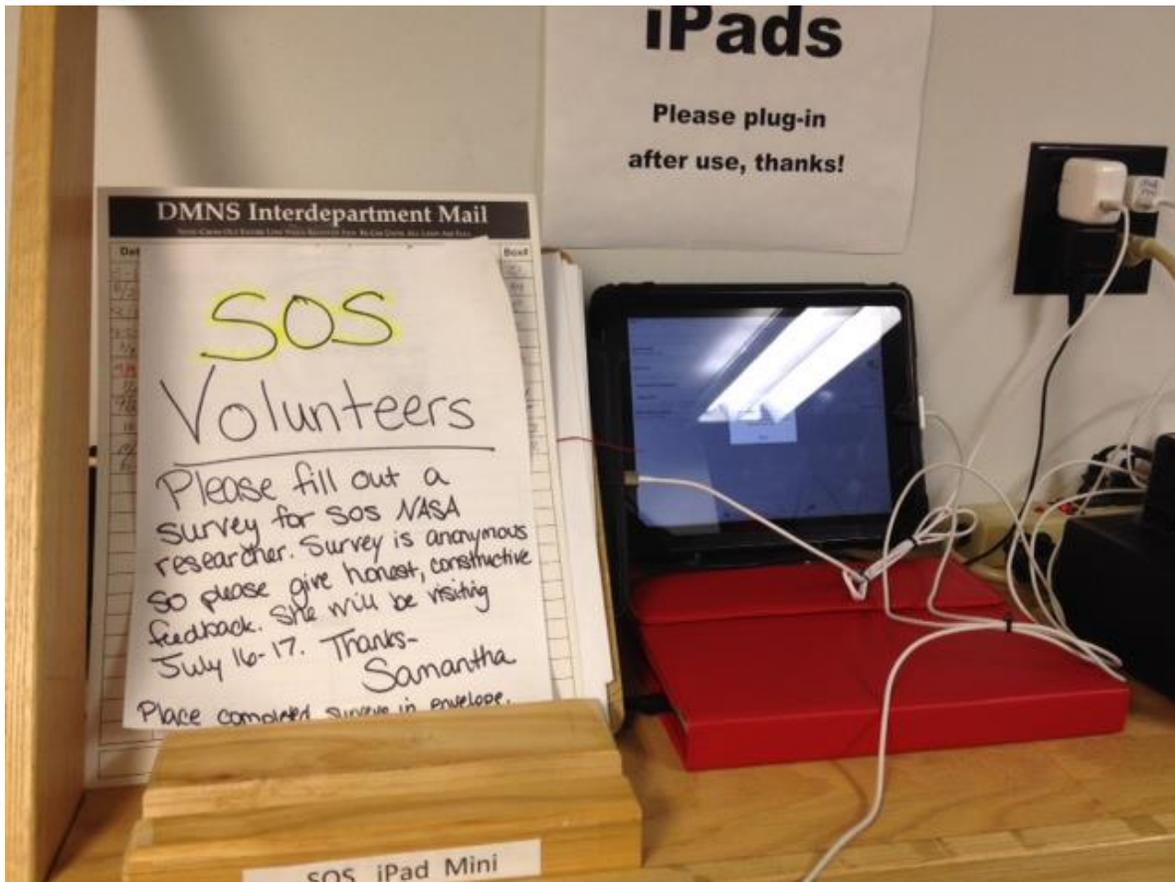
We realize that Monday is a Free Day (and there will be others during the project), so please be especially mindful of assisting guests with wayfinding to other elevators and stairwells.

Your support for our guests throughout the project will be appreciated because we are committed to minimizing disruption and ensuring our guests continue to have a wonderful experience. [Click here to read the fact sheet about this project.](#)"

## **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**

[Continuing saga of amazing Rosetta mission](#)

[Crazy photos of Russian Buran shuttles](#)

### **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**

**Tuesday September 8**

**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**

### **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.**

**Dave Blumenstock**

Coordinator of Volunteers for Space Science

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

[dblumenstock@dmns.org](mailto:dblumenstock@dmns.org)

Phone 303.370.8344

Fax 303.370.6005

Join the Museum's Online Community

[www.dmns.org](http://www.dmns.org)