



space odyssey

03.04.16 volunteer update

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space odyssey news

NEXT FREE DAY: MARCH 7

If you're free and would like to help out next Monday, please come on in. Thanks in advance!

INTRO TO SPACE ODYSSEY TRAINING

Tuesday, March 15

6:30 PM to 8 PM

Space Odyssey

RSVP to Dave Blumenstock by March 14

Come to this training and get free pizza, learn about all the amazing things you can do in Space Odyssey, learn about and journey inside the Mars Diorama, learn about cosmic storytelling at the Orbits Table with Dr. Ka Chun Yu, and learn about our amazing Mars Exploration Rover model. With each of the above demos, you will gain valuable insights

into how to use these amazing exhibit tools with the public.

INTRODUCING SEAN WEINERT

Sean worked in Event Services here at DMNS years ago and is back with us working in the Tech department. Here's a little intro he wrote to share with you all, plus a pic of him so you know who he is when you see him and his new role in the exhibit:



Greetings, Museum Galaxy Guides!

My name is Sean Weinert and I will be transitioning as the new Space Odyssey exhibit technician. I am currently training under Dave Lewis as he contemplates retirement and I hope to learn everything I can from the passionate and innovative "Sparky."

I am an Audio Engineering graduate and started my professional career with DMNS in 2006 supporting audio/visual installations throughout the building. I took a 6 year hiatus to manage Geek Squad locations throughout Colorado and returned to the Museum last October. I am incredibly excited to transition into the role and am looking forward to being a part of the future of Space Odyssey!

Cheers,

Sean Weinert
Technology Operations

HELP NEEDED MONDAY AFTERNOONS IN SPACE O

We are in need of help on the Monday PM shift while we look for new recruits to fill these positions. So, if you have the time and inclination to help out, please let me know. Thanks much!

HELP NEEDED: MARCH 8 MEMBER NIGHT

We are all set for help for the March 8 Member Night. But if you're still interested in helping out, you're more than welcome. Just let me know. Thanks to everyone who's volunteered for this event!

WORKING MARCH 5? PLEASE PARK AT EAST HIGH

We will have two shuttle buses running from the East High parking lot all day from 6 AM to 6 PM on Saturday March 5 as the Girls in Science program at DMNS is expected to draw in excess of 10,000 guests. So if you can, please park at East High this day and take the

shuttle bus to help save spots at the Museum for our guests. If you need the location of the East High lot, [click here](#). Thanks much all!

MARCH 5 GIRLS IN SCIENCE PROGRAM UPDATE

For those working in SO on March 5, please note that Girls in Science presenters will be using both the SOS and Galaxy Stage all day. The presenters are from NOAA and other local institutions.

NOTE ABOUT CALLING FOR TECH HELP

When you call for Tech help either using the phone or radio, please write a note on the whiteboard so we can track these problems. Also, when calling for help, please don't call for a specific person as that person may not be in that day etc. Let's leave it up to Tech to designate the right person for the job on that particular day. If you have questions, please let me know. Thanks!

BE CAREFUL EDITING SOS PLAYLISTS

Please be careful when editing SOS playlists. Today we noticed that the Japanese Tsunami playlist was inundated with Jupiter datasets for some reason. Please follow these simple guidelines when editing playlists:

1. Edit a playlist only if you created it.
2. If you have suggestions for editing a playlist you didn't create, please send a note to me with your suggestions for editing it.
2. If you accidentally start editing a playlist, stop. Please don't try to fix it. Just email me and let me know what you did, or write a note on the whiteboard and I'll get it fixed as well as help you figure out what might have gone wrong in the editing process.
4. If you'd like to learn how to create/edit your own playlist, please ask for help if you need it and check out our online SOS iPad app manual located on [this page of the Portal](#).

Thank you!

MARS ROVER MODEL FACILITATION

Pat Taylor on Monday AM has been facilitating the rover model in the planetarium lobby and has been enjoying the experience. While the volume of people coming by isn't the same as when the model was out in the main hall, she says that people aren't in a rush in its new locale and they linger longer. So please give it a shot if you want, you just may need to be a bit more patient. Thanks Pat! If you are curious about facilitating this cart and its associated full-scale model, [check out this page of the Portal](#) where you can find the training manual and related information.

HOW TO LOAD NEW HORIZONS PLUTO IMAGE AT ORBITS TABLE

If you want to wrap Pluto in its latest New Horizons image at the Orbits Table, here's what you do:

1. Fly or jump to Pluto.
2. Click on the "globe-shaped" icon on the navigation pad. This is the pad that you use to control rotate and zoom. The icon is in the upper right corner.

3. When the window pops up, click on "Layers."
4. Then click on "Load."
5. You should see another window with a file that says "Pluto..."
6. Double click on that file and the image should wrap on Pluto.

SPECTROSCOPY CART UPDATE

Dimitri has ordered most of the parts he needs to complete the new cart, we're just waiting for a few more items.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Have a question about space science? Please send it my way and we'll get it answered and I'll publish it in the next update.

TELESCOPE INTERACTIVE UPDATE

The camera on the telescope interactive and its associated program was rebooted recently and it is operating nominally. Dimitri recommends facilitating it along with the IR table area to help guests better understand what its trying to show them. Enjoy!

SEASONS TABLE UPDATE

We are working on getting the Earth's tilt secured. How often can you say something like that at work?

GROUND PENETRATING RADAR UPDATE

This unit has a broken sensor so we are replacing it. In the meantime, we've moved the sandbox off the Experiment Bar until it's fixed.

ASTROTOT PANEL UPDATE

We are removing the wheel (finally) from this panel and are going to add a push button with some discreet lighting to illuminate the image in the small "porthole" in the panel that was removed. We'll replace the panel when this is finished.

EXPERIMENT BAR COUNTER TOP UPDATE

You've probably noticed that the counter top at the Experiment Bar is looking fairly worn out these days--as is the table for Infrared Experiments. We are working on a solution for both areas.

LAPTOP EMAIL

The SO laptops can send mail, sort of. If you try to send a link to a guest, you may get a message on the machine telling you that it's having trouble connecting to the server. However, I know that sometimes the mail goes through. We are continuing to try to get this resolved.

RECENTLY ADDED SCIENCE ON A SPHERE DATASETS

Our system is updated by NOAA every Monday with the latest, greatest datasets on a continuous basis. You can also search the NOAA site directly by [clicking here](#).

ON THE WEB

[NASA Climate Update](#)

[This excellent blog is written by Space O volunteer Rich Olcott:
<http://hardscienceainthard.com/>](#)

[Space Men documentary looks at high altitude pioneers](#)

[Cubelets: some cool square robots made in Boulder](#)

SCFD COMMUNITY FREE DAY CALENDAR

The Museum is offering 12 Community Free Days in 2016, 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 these Free Days throughout the year to allow those who can't afford admission the privilege to visit DMNS. To see the dates for all the Free Days and to learn more about SCFD, [click here](#).

space science lectures & events

GIRLS IN SCIENCE

Saturday, March 5

9 AM to 5 PM

Space Odyssey and throughout DMNS

The Denver Museum of Nature & Science and CBS4 are excited to host a Girls and Science event. Come explore a variety of Science Clubhouses, where girls (and boys!) and their families will meet women scientists and experience the many diverse opportunities a future in science, technology, engineering, art, and math can bring. This day is all about igniting a passion for science-so try it on, test it out, and play! [Click here to learn more](#).

60 MINUTES IN SPACE

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.

Location:

Gates Planetarium

Date/Time:

Wednesday, March 30, 7 p.m.

Tickets:
FREE

BREAKING NEWS FROM PLUTO

After cruising across the solar system for nearly 10 years, NASA's New Horizons spacecraft reached the icy world of Pluto in July 2015. The treasure trove of observations on Pluto and its five moons will stream back to Earth until late 2016, but the new information has already shown these worlds to be far more complex than expected. Fran Bagenal, a New Horizons coinvestigator from the University of Colorado-Boulder, will discuss the latest discoveries about our favorite dwarf planet.

Location:
Ricketson Auditorium

Date/Time:
Thursday, March 31, 7 p.m.

Tickets:
\$8 member, \$10 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. Please call Guest Services at 303.370.6000 to make a reservation. Guest Services is open daily, 9:00 - 5:00 p.m.

To save time the night of the program, we recommend picking up your tickets anytime during regular Museum hours at the north ticket desk. You can also pick up your ticket from the will-call cashier on your way into the program on the night of the program. You will always need a ticket to attend programs.

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!

did you know...

...that we have a "Volunteer Fund" at DMNS? The Volunteer Fund is an endowment fund for the Denver Museum of Nature & Science (DMNS) held at the Museum's Foundation. The fund was established in 2012 to support and recognize the work of volunteers. The fund creates an enduring resource for projects/activities that volunteers and staff identify as valuable to volunteers' work at the Museum.

The incredible dedication of our volunteers has long been appreciated by the Museum. While total numbers of volunteers and their hours can be calculated (1,747 gave 28,666 in 2012), and the estimated worth expressed in comparable monetary value (\$4.9 million), the spirit of today's Museum volunteers is indeed priceless.

Volunteers clearly have a phenomenal commitment to the Museum and its mission. In order to help this commitment endure, the Volunteer Fund was established in 2012 and recognizes the work of volunteers and to gives volunteers a chance to identify and support specific Museum projects and activities. The Volunteer Fund is an endowment of the DMNS Foundation.

The Volunteer Fund's principal will be invested for long-term growth and the income distributed annually in support of volunteer-selected projects and activities, which will be managed by a committee of volunteers. By supporting this fund, you will help our volunteers get the equipment, training, and scholarships they need to help make the Museum thrive.

Donate online at www.dmns.org/volunteerfund. Donation forms and envelopes are available in the Staff and Volunteer Lounge, or ask your staff supervisor for assistance if you need it.

museum news and events

TREX CAFE IMPROVEMENTS

In an ongoing effort to improve our café for our internal and external guest, we will be doing a small amount of remodeling in the T- Rex Café. Starting Monday February 29th the Italian bistro food station will be shut down and closed off for two weeks. During this time we will have a pop up café in the former home of the coffee cart. At the pop up café we will offer an array of hot and cold food choices along with some kid's options as well. The pop up café will operate the same hours as the normal café does. Please feel free to reach out if you have any issues or concerns. The food service team thanks you for your patients and support during this remodel project.

PARDON OUR DUST AS ALLOSAURUS GETS A "LEG UP"

After 20 years on display, the *Allosaurus* mount in *Prehistoric Journey* was leaning a little too much, so it's getting a leg up-and a facelift! This project is also an opportunity to spruce up the platform that holds *Stegosaurus* and *Allosaurus*, and replace an outdated plaster skull cast with a more accurate, lighter-weight one. Because of the difficult nature of working on the fossil skeleton, the dinosaur gallery will be closed from Monday, April 11, through Friday, April 22. The rest of *Prehistoric Journey* will remain open during this time. Guests

will still be able to see *Diplodocus* and many of the other dinosaurs from the overlook, located upstairs from the Cretaceous Creekbed diorama. We appreciate your patience!

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

The Volunteer Enrichment Committee plans a variety of events, many of which are free, for DMNS volunteers to participate, some are onsite at DMNS, others travel to spots nearby. Check the bulletin board in the Staff and Volunteer Lounge for more info.

Dave Blumenstock

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www.dmns.org