



space odyssey

03.11.16 volunteer update

[Click here to visit the Space Odyssey MGG Portal](#)

[Click here for the latest space news update on the MGG Portal](#)

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space odyssey news

KUDOS!

Thanks so much to everyone who worked the Girls in Science event, which hosted around 13,000 guests at DMNS, as well as the March 7 Free Day. Nice work all!

MORE KUDOS!

Congratulations to Linda and Larry Stearns, both long-time DMNS volunteers, for winning the 2015 Vernon B. Selby Memorial Volunteer of the Year award! Linda has volunteered in SO in the past and for the space sciences department. Larry is currently a Guide Captain in SO. To read about their illustrious volunteer experience and the award itself, [click here](#).

MISSING KEYS We are missing the Meteorite cart key. If you have it, please let me know and return it ASAP. Thanks!

BRIEFING ROOM CHAOS THIS WEEK AND NEXT

It's that time of year when the Museum hosts the annual [IMERSA summit](#) here at DMNS. Our planetarium manager Dan Neafus and his team will be hard at work over the next week preparing for this event which is attended by immersive technology groups from around the country and the world. Dan will do his best to make room for us in the Briefing Room, but please know that you will find it fairly well inundated with all sorts of tech gear. It's just the nature of the beast to prep for this event, so please try to understand it's temporary. Dan is apologetic about the state of things in there and he will do his best to keep some semblance of order. After next Wednesday, things should improve. Thanks and let me know if you have any questions or comments.

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.

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: WEEKDAY MORNINGS IN SO

If you want to help out for extra shifts, we have need on Wednesday and Friday mornings. If you know someone outside of our current volunteer team who is interested in volunteering in SO who wants to apply, please let me know and I'll help get them started with the application process. Thank you!

UPDATE: HOW TO LOAD NEW HORIZONS PLUTO IMAGE AT ORBITS TABLE

I made some mistakes writing the steps for loading the New Horizons data on Pluto, sorry for the confusion. Please see the corrected steps below to wrap Pluto in its latest New Horizons image at the Orbits Table:

1. Fly or jump to Pluto.
2. Left click on the "globe-shaped" icon on the navigation pad. This is the window that you use to rotate and zoom images etc. The icon is in the upper left corner.
3. When the window pops up, left click on "Layer Sets."
4. Then left click on "Load."
5. You should see another window with a file that says "Pluto..."

6. Double left click on that file and the image should wrap on Pluto.
7. This image will stay on Pluto for your entire session until the program is closed.

UPDATES TO THE MGG PORTAL

The Portal site has a new link on the home page to take you to Museum lectures and programs. Scroll down the home page to the lower right and you'll see it. [Click here](#) to check it out.

SOS UPDATE

Please note that the 2004 Indonesian Tsunami dataset isn't working on the SOS right now. That's because a newer dataset of that event has been created--along with a newer version of the Japan 2011 tsunami and others. [Click here](#) to visit the NOAA SOS site and check them out. We just have to wait for it to arrive in our computer via NOAA's weekly update. So hopefully it'll be installed early next week. And you Sphere aficionados may have noticed earlier this week that the seams between projector images at the SOS are pretty much non-existent. This beautiful state of things was thanks to the incredible alignment job done by Shilpi Gupta from the SOS section at NOAA who was here last weekend working the Girls in Science event. Now, it'd be awesome to have Shilpi align our Sphere every week, but that just isn't possible. What is possible is to install an auto-alignment system that NOAA designed which should make our SOS look almost this good every day. We will be ordering the equipment soon and I'll let you know once it's been installed.

NEW/OLD MACBOOK ON GALAXY STAGE

We'll be replacing the somewhat decrepit MacBook on the Galaxy Stage with a similar model from the storage room. It should work much better given that it has "less miles" on it. Will let you know when it's been installed.

NEW LAPTOP FOR RUNNING UNIVIEW

We have a new laptop exclusively for running Uniview that's on a cart in the storage room. It isn't quite ready for primetime, so stay tuned for more updates. Please don't use it just yet.

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.

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 AND INFRARED COUNTER TOP UPDATE

Status quo: 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

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) has created a new tsunami animation simulating the tsunami following the 9.0 magnitude earthquake that occurred five years ago on March 11, 2011. The animation covers a 48-hour period showing the propagation of these waves as well as their coastal impacts. Both the waves and the coastal impacts use the same color scheme to show how tsunami waves often grow in amplitude when they come ashore. Furthermore, this color scheme is based on PTWC's tsunami guidance criteria, with sharp breaks at 0.3 m / ~1 ft and 1 m / ~3 ft to indicate when PTWC recommends that no action be taken, that beaches be cleared, or coastal areas be completely evacuated. In addition to the animation we have also provided some still images that you can use in your presentations. You can find the full dataset and its write-up here: [New 2011 Japan Tsunami Dataset](#)

ON THE WEB

[Check out this cool NASA workshop coming to Denver and other locales](#)

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

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...

The Museum owns explorer William Clark's telescope. Actor Raymond Burr donated part

of his shell collection. The large Brazilian topaz in Gems and Minerals was once owned by artist Salvador Dali. Original Seven astronaut Scott Carpenter donated a moon rock now on display in Space Odyssey.

museum news and events

TWO MUSEUM EXHIBITION UPDATES

On both the Anschutz Sky Terrace and the Schlessman Lounge (Leprino Family Atrium, Level 2), guests can now enjoy bilingual exhibit panels interpreting our view to the west, including both the geological features and those made a more recently by humans. This project was designed with human-centered design processes, involving prototyping with communities both on- and off-site. It is great to give our guests more and different ways to connect with the spectacular mountains and our neighbors! This project was a hybrid of baseline work and improvements from the Here Better Strategic Initiative.

In North American Indian Cultures gallery (Level 2), walk toward the back of the Native Life in the American Southwest section to watch a new video behind the Hopi Grinding House. Leigh Kuwawisiwuma, the Director of the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office, talks about the mountains that the Hopi call Nuva'tuk-iy-a-ovi and the Forest Service calls the San Francisco Peaks, located in North Central Arizona. These mountains are sacred to the Hopi as the home of the Katsina. The mountains also include the Arizona Snowbowl ski resort, which uses reclaimed water from treated sewage in its artificial snowmaking. The inclusion of this new video reflects our efforts to bring contemporary Native perspectives and voices to our North American Indian Cultures interpretation, as well as supporting communities to find their own connections with our Museum.

Thanks to the 46 people and nine departments who helped bring these two projects to fruition!

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