



# space odyssey

## 03.18.16 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 o volunteer news and info

### **KUDOS!**

Thanks so much to everyone who helped out at the Member Night last week where we had over 1,000 guests! Thanks to you all, DMNS members got a great view of the solar eclipse in the South Pacific, saw Jupiter and its moons along with Denver landmarks through telescopes, and had a blast in Space Odyssey doing all sorts of cool activities. Thank you!

**NEXT FREE DAY: April 10, Earth Day**

**SPRING BREAK AND PARKING** Yes, it's that time of year again when we are fruitfully inundated with guests and parking is at a premium. If you can, please take alternate transit to the Museum during the period from now, March 18, thru April 10. The church lot at 18th and Colorado (North of the actual church) will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Thanks all for your help with this! If you have questions or comments, let me know.

### **WORKING WITH AUTISTIC GUESTS IN SPACE ODYSSEY**

**Tuesday, March 22**

**Studio 102 and 103**

**6:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

**RSVP to Dave Blumenstock**

This training is geared toward those helping out at the Autism Society event on April 2, but anyone is welcome to attend if you want to know more about working with those on the autistic spectrum. The training will consist of a presentation and Q and A by a representative from the Autism Society of Colorado.

### **METEORITE CART TRAINING**

**Monday, April 4**

**9 AM to 10 AM**

**Space Odyssey**

**No RSVP necessary** Please join educators Samantha Richards and Naomi Pequette as they give an overview and insightful information about facilitating the Meteorite Cart. To learn more about this popular activity on the MGG Portal, [click here](#).

### **GUIDE CAPTAIN MEETING**

**Monday, April 11**

**6:30 PM to 8:00 PM**

**Galaxy Stage in SO**

**RSVP to Dave Blumenstock**

### **TELESCOPE HELP NEEDED: APRIL 10 FREE DAY**

If you are a certified telescope operator, please let me know if you'd like to help out for the Earth Day Free Day by running solar telescopes. Even if you normally volunteer on Sundays, please let me know if you'll be in that day. Thanks! And if you are interested in being trained on telescopes, let me know that as well, though that training doesn't start until early May.

### **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!

### **FOOD STORAGE AT EXPERIMENT BAR**

If you are doing vacuum chamber experiments, please make sure all food items are put back in their labeled Tupperware container in the drawer. Not only does this help protect the Museum's collections, it also helps keep them nice and fresh which will make for a more dramatic demo. Thanks!

### **HELP WANTED: SPECIALIZED GEOLOGY VOLUNTEER POSITION AT DMNS**

[Click here](#) to learn more about this position and to apply. If you have questions, email [Dimitri.Klebe@dmns.org](mailto:Dimitri.Klebe@dmns.org).

### **CELEBRATING WOMEN IN SCIENCE MONTH**

Check out the accomplishments of these exceptional scientists who happen to be women:

**Ada Lovelace** (1815 - 1852) - Developed the first computer program.

**Caroline Herschel** (1750 - 1848) - Discovered several comets and first woman scientist to be recognized by the United Kingdom.

**Rear Admiral Grace Hopper** (1906 - 1992) - Developed the first computer language compiler, a precursor to the COBOL computer programming language.

**Hedy Lamar** (1913 - 2000) - Developed Spread Spectrum Technology as a method for jamming radio signals and was later key in the development of WiFi and Bluetooth communications (and was a Hollywood star to boot!).

**Jane Goodall** (1934 - present) - Known for her ground-breaking studies on primates.

**Jocelyn Bell Burnell** (1943 - present) - Astronomer and physicist who discovered pulsars.

**Josephine Cochrane** (1839 - 1913)- Invented the dishwasher.

**Maria Mitchell** (1818 - 1889) - First American woman to become a professional astronomer & discovered a comet.

**Mary Anderson** (1866 - 1953) & **Charlotte Bridgewood** (1861 - 1929)- Developed patents for windshield wipers.

**Mary Anning** (1799 - 1847) - Famous British fossil hunter and paleontologist who discovered the first correctly identified ichthyosaur skeleton.

**Melissa Franklin** (1957 - present) - Experimental particle physicist who discovered the existence of top quarks. Also the first woman to get tenure at the Harvard Physics department.

**Rita Levi-Montalcini** (1909 - 2012) - Neurologist who won a Nobel Prize for her discoveries about Nerve Growth Factor.

**Rosalind Elsie Franklin** (1920 - 1958) - X-ray crystallographer and biophysicist whose

findings contributed to our understanding of the structure of DNA.

**Dr. Shirley Jackson** (1946 - present) - First African American woman to attain a doctorate at MIT.

**Stephanie Kwolek** (1923 - 2014) - American chemist who developed Kevlar.

## **YOUR SURVEY RESULTS**

[Click here](#) to read the results from the January 2016 Space Odyssey Volunteer Survey. Thanks to all those who responded!

## **ON THE WEB**

[Do black holes evaporate over time?](#)

[Click here to celebrate Pi Day in the NASA/JPL tradition](#)

[NY Times article about Pluto](#)

[Click here to take a science quiz from Pew Research](#)

[Click here to see what's going on with the James Webb Telescope](#)

[Click here to read about the ESA ExoMars launch and mission](#)

[Click here to learn "where rockets come from"](#)

## **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 o exhibit news**

## **CHANGES TO GALAXY STAGE AND OTHER LAPTOPS**

For those that do Superchill, there is a change to the new/old Macbook on the stage: To activate the camera, just click on the "Photo Booth" icon on the desktop. Likewise, for Logger Pro/measure temperature, click on the Logger Pro icon on the desktop. If you need help with this, let me or another staff person know. Thanks to Tech, they have refurbished this new/old Galaxy Stage Mac (pirated from the storage room) so that it runs on the latest

Mac OS and installed a new solid-state hard drive and will be upgrading the RAM to 8GB. Tech is going to be testing out similar upgrades to ALL our MacBook Pro laptops to keep them current. We'll probably be rolling this out one laptop at a time to test them and get your feedback. Tech is hoping that upgrading the Macs will allow us to run the newest Mac OS and help solve our email issues as well as help stave-off buying new laptops for a few more years.

### **NEW VACUUM PUMP FOR SUPERCHILL**

We've replaced the pump on the Galaxy Stage with a brand new one which works much better. Enjoy!

### **MGG PORTAL: NEW STUFF**

[Check out this new presentation](#) created by SO/Newsroom volunteer Tom Rudman about the history of space exploration via robotic missions. We've also created an updated version of the LAMP manual, [click here](#) to check that out. We're also working on a new, updated version of the Orbits Explorer manual, stay tuned for more on that front. And Samantha and Naomi are working to update all the manuals on the Portal, I'll let you know about that as I hear.

### **SEASONS TABLE**

We are working on getting the Earth's tilt secured and installing a new Earth that doesn't have North America worn away. How often can you say something like that at work?

### **EXPERIMENT BAR**

We are looking at permanently removing the GPR (sandbox) due to the fact that the sand is destroying the countertop on a consistent basis. How would you all feel if we did so? Along these lines, we are looking at building an enclosure for the planet weight bottles so that they could be left unfacilitated but also be removed from the 'Bar if need be. Tech is also purchasing a new vacuum pump for use at the 'Bar.

### **INFRARED AREA**

We looking at cosmetic fixes to the worn out table top. We'll also be fixing the broken bracket on the white light and the peeling paint on the blow dryer. Ergo, both of those have been removed temporarily for repair.

### **UNIVIEW LAPTOP**

This laptop is still in the prototype phase and is not ready for widespread use. Staff will be testing it out and I'll let you know where we take things from here. Given that it isn't "ready for prime time," it is has been removed from the 2003 room for now.

### **ORBITS TABLE: HOW TO LOAD NEW HORIZONS PLUTO IMAGE**

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.

### **SCIENCE ON A SPHERE**

A new, updated Indonesian Tsunami dataset is now available on our SOS. It's already loaded on the Normal playlist. It's been revised with a more detailed image of the wave action and has a colorblind-friendly color bar/key. Also, we know how annoying it is that we keep getting that "missing dataset" message on the SOS iPad and we have to continually reboot the system to get it to respond properly. Tech is talking to NOAA about this and hopefully there will be a resolution in our future.

### **S.O. MARS DIORAMA ROVER NEWS**

Tech is still working on this latest iteration of the robotic rover which, if implemented, will be running in the diorama space where the Xbox game now lives. Users would sit at the console in that space and watch the rover through the window as it drives around in that smaller part of the Mars diorama. This new rover will hopefully work better than previous iterations at letting visitors get a small taste of what it'd be like to control a rover on Mars. Implementation is slated for early 2016 and I'll keep you apprised.

### **(NEW) SPECTROSCOPY CART**

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

### **ASTROTOT PANEL IMPROVEMENTS**

We are making some progress on repairing this panel. Our new approach is to replace the dreaded wheel with a button-activated computer display that will display various space images for our youngest visitors. Stay tuned...

## **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**

## **YURI'S NIGHT AT SPACE FOUNDATION IN COLORADO SPRINGS**

"Circling the Earth in my orbital spaceship I marveled at the beauty of our planet. People of the world, let us safeguard and enhance this beauty - not destroy it!"

-Yuri Gagarin, 1st human in space

Celebrate man's first journey into space!

Adults 21+ Years and Older.

April 10, 2016 - 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Space Foundation World Headquarters  
and Discovery Center

4425 Arrowswest Drive

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80907

[Click here to learn more.](#)

### **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 are projected to have 18,000+ guests here for Dia del Nino on April 23rd?

## **museum news and events**

### **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**

Coordinator of Volunteers for Space Science

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

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Join the Museum's Online Community

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