WHAT?
Take an intimate look at the role the Sun plays in the life of our solar system. The quest to comprehend the universe is an ancient one, beginning when our ancestors looked up to the sky and wondered. Odyssey takes us on a personal voyage of discovery through the cosmos, from the legends and monuments of early sky watchers to an imaginary flight through the solar system and our home galaxy and into the depths of space and time. Come take a ride!

SECRETS OF THE SUN
Take a close look at the role the Sun plays in the life of our solar system in this full-dome movie. From the nuclear forces churning at the heart of the Sun to the mass ejections of solar material into surrounding space, we experience the power of the Sun and its impact on the planets and ultimately life on Earth. We will trace the life cycle of the Sun itself, going to its beginnings and moving in time to its eventual death.

SEASON OF LIGHT
Season of Light traces the history and development of many of the world’s holiday customs, all of which involve lighting up the winter season. Season of Light also recounts the historical, religious, and cultural rituals practiced during the time of the winter solstice, not only Christian and Jewish but also Celtic, Nordic, Roman, Irish, Mexican, and Hopi. It also examines some of our more lighthearted seasonal traditions.

CHILDREN’S FEATURES
SOLAR SYSTEM SAFARI
A jungle adventurer uses a magical camera to take visitors on an exciting safari through the solar system. The Sun, Moon, planets, and dwarf planets come to life, taking on unique personalities and describing their own characteristics and eccentricities. Learn about the planets and the current status of Pluto.

SANTA’S SECRET STAR
What? Santa has lost his compass and can’t find his way home? Sounds like a disaster in the making! Can the stars help? Learn about the day and night sky and how the stars seem to make pictures in the sky in our holiday show for young stargazers. Learn how you, too, can find Santa’s secret star!

Kids, join the Galaxy Club! Get your punch card and subscribe to our e-newsletter!

SPECIAL EVENTS
WORLD OF SCIENCE LECTURES
At 7pm the first Friday of the month, the planetarium becomes a forum for a local scientist to discuss his or her specialties. Admission is $1 at the door. See our website for a list of speakers and topics. For this fall:

October 2 – Pandemics, Pathogens, and Prions with Julie Pryde from CU Public Health.
November 6 – Weird Weather: Hear about drought in California and floods in Texas with state climatologist Jim Angel.
December 4 – A Look at Dwarf Planets with astronomer Jim Kaler.

SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM DAY
September 28 is Smithsonian Museum Day. Patrons presenting an official ticket gain free admission to planetarium shows on this evening. For more information, see www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday.

FULLDOME SHOW PREMIERE
Need something to do for your school’s fall holiday? Come see a never-before-shown full-dome feature called: From the Earth to the Universe on September 23 at 10am. The night sky has been the subject of countless stories, ancient myths, and awe since the dawn of humanity. We all share a desire to comprehend the universe. Experience this journey of celestial discovery! Regular rates apply.

LUNAR ECLIPSE
There will be a total lunar eclipse visible from Central Illinois on Sunday, September 27. The main eclipse begins just after 8pm and ends at 11:27pm. If weather permits, join the CU Astronomical Society outside of the planetarium for a free look at the eclipse through a telescope. Park in the M1 lot.

PLAY ARTEMIS ON THE DOME!
Gamers: Ever wanted to command your own starship? Artemis simulates a spaceship bridge by networking several computers together. Players serve on duty stations for the normal jobs a bridge officer might do, like captain, science, helm, communication, engineering, and weapons control. Artemis is a social game where players must work together on the bridge in order to win. Role-play and cooperation are encouraged for the game. School is out for Columbus Day, so come play with us in the dome October 12. 9am to 4:30pm. Ages 10 and up welcome. Cost is $6 per person or $30 for a team of six to play in a one-hour time slot. $2 admission to observe. Please preregister for this event by calling 217/351-2567. For details, visit parkland.edu/planetarium.

THE RETURN OF CELESTIAL STRINGS!
Harpist Ann McLaughlin follows her sold-out live performances under the Staerkel dome with a “send-off” concert this September. Enjoy music ranging from Debussy to Piazzolla and Henry Mancini to John Williams, all synchronized with our star show. Come join Ann as she kicks off her 2015 Celestial Strings’ planetarium tour in her “home” planetarium. It’s sure to be an unforgettable experience! All seats $5 at the door.

For show information, call 217/351-2446 or visit us at www.parkland.edu/planetarium.

ADMISSION RATES AND POLICIES
Tickets may be purchased 30 minutes before each show. Inquire about our policy for children under six.

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<th></th>
<th>One Show</th>
<th>Two Shows*</th>
<th>Science Lectures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
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*Attend two consecutive shows at a reduced rate.

Reservations are not accepted unless there are 20 or more in your party. The planetarium may be rented for private showings at $250 per hour. Call 217/351-2568 for group show information.

TEACHERS! Check out our website for reserving your field trips, and find a complete list of available programs: www.parkland.edu/planetarium.

- The William M. Staerkel Planetarium is fully accessible to the physically disabled, including wheelchair seating in the dome. Handicapped parking is available.
- The closest parking is in lot M1 north of the dome.
SEPTEMBER
FRI 4 / SAT 5 CLOSED
FRI 11
7pm Summer Prairie Skies
8pm Odyssey
SAT 12
7pm Solar System Safari
8pm Odyssey
FRI 18
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8:30pm Celestial Strings concert
SAT 19
2pm Celestial Strings concert
7pm Solar System Safari
8pm Odyssey
WED 23
10am From the Earth to the Universe
FRI 25
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Odyssey
SAT 26 Smithsonian Museums Day
7pm Solar System Safari
8pm Odyssey
SUN 27
8pm Total Lunar Eclipse Viewing

OCTOBER
FRI 2
7pm World of Science Lecture
8pm Secrets of the Sun
SAT 3
7pm Solar System Safari
8pm Secrets of the Sun
FRI 9
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Secrets of the Sun
SAT 10
7pm Solar System Safari
8pm Secrets of the Sun
MON 12
9am Artemis game (in the dome)
FRI 16
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Secrets of the Sun
SAT 17
7pm Solar System Safari
8pm Secrets of the Sun
FRI 23
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Secrets of the Sun
SAT 24
7pm Solar System Safari
8pm Secrets of the Sun
FRI 30
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Secrets of the Sun
SAT 31
7pm Solar System Safari
8pm Secrets of the Sun

NOVEMBER
FRI 6
7pm World of Science Lecture
8pm Secrets of the Sun
SAT 7
7pm Santa’s Secret Star
8pm Secrets of the Sun
FRI 13
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Secrets of the Sun
SAT 14
7pm Santa’s Secret Star
8pm Secrets of the Sun
FRI 20
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Secrets of the Sun
SAT 21
7pm Santa’s Secret Star
8pm Secrets of the Sun
FRI 27
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Season of Light
SAT 28
7pm Santa’s Secret Star
8pm Season of Light

DECEMBER
FRI 4
7pm World of Science Lecture
8pm Season of Light
SAT 5
7pm Santa’s Secret Star
8pm Season of Light
FRI 11
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Season of Light
SAT 12
7pm Santa’s Secret Star
8pm Season of Light
FRI 18
7pm Fall Prairie Skies
8pm Season of Light
SAT 19
7pm Santa’s Secret Star
8pm Season of Light

Closed for the holidays December 24 through January 4. We’ll reopen for public programs the weekend of Jan 15/16.

Become a member of FOSP, the Friends of Staerkel Planetarium. Obtain free show admissions, newsletters, invitations to special events, and more! Plus, get your sky news quickly by subscribing to our listserv. Check our website for details.

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PARKLAND COLLEGE
Ensures equal educational opportunities are offered to all students regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, gender expression, disability, sexual orientation, veteran/veteran era, age, or religion, and is Section 504/ADA compliant. For additional information or accommodations, call 217/351-2551. MACs0715