

July 2017

Current Show

The Sun's Disappearing Act

Fridays, July 21 - August 18
7:00 - 8:00 pm | \$5

Solar eclipses are beautiful and rare events that have inspired scientific ideas, cultural stories, and historical events. The staff of the UWM Planetarium will describe how ancient civilizations interpreted eclipses including colorful myths, what we learn from eclipses, and how to safely watch the solar eclipse on August 21. This unique production is the Planetarium's first ever version of a live play!



Splendor of the Solar System

July 7 & 14, 2017
7:00 - 8:00 pm | \$5

Witness the immense beauty of our very own solar system. Learn how the planets came to be and see powerful storms and planets up close. We will also go beyond the solar system with a view of the entire observable universe. Then we'll finish with an indoor stargazing session and look for constellations including Leo, Hercules, and Virgo away from city lights.



Jean's Corner

A Note From The Director



Dear UWM Planetarium friend:

June took me on an adventure out to New York to participate in the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science Boot Camp. Over nearly a week I participated in workshops on how to explain science better to the public. We are also finishing up research based on our Northern Lights production about how to best describe complex topics to our audiences.

The Planetarium's first staff-lead production, *The Sun's Disappearing Act*, begins this month. My staff has been busy learning their lines and preparing the Planetarium for hosting its first real play. Designing and writing our script has been a joint staff project. Thanks to Professor Robin Mello for being head writer & artist in residence with us.

I was honored this June to receive the 2017 Regents Academic Staff Excellence Award during the UW System Board of Regent's yearly meeting. It was very exciting being recognized across the whole UW system for bringing science and learning to our community.

I hope to see you soon under the stars,

Jean

jcreight@uwm.edu

Funding our Solar Eclipse

The Solar Eclipse is coming up this August and the Planetarium is looking to host a fun FREE event for all on August 21. The Planetarium is also running a special Friday Night Show series hosted and presented by the planetarium staff! To do this, we are looking for donations to help us fund all the ideas we have and equipment we need including:

- Staffing (\$10,000)
- Solar filters for our telescopes (\$100)
- Recording equipment to display the eclipse (\$150)
- Eclipse glasses (\$100)
- A bounce house for the kids (\$200)
- A live band (\$600)

If you are looking to make a donation, you can either donate online at: <http://uwm.edu/planetarium/give/> or mail a check to:

UWM Physics/Planetarium
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0413

Upcoming Changes

Due to some revitalization here at the planetarium, we want you to be aware of a few changes we will be making. First off, we will be switching over to exclusively using the email planetarium@uwm.edu for all purposes. Our other email, stargaze@uwm.edu, will be slowly phased out (i.e. newsletters will be sent from planetarium@uwm.edu now). Please keep this in mind!

Also, we are in planning stages of getting an online ticket purchasing system. While not ready yet, when it is released you will be able to purchase tickets for our shows ahead of time, and not have to worry if the show is sold out! We will be sending out a separate email announcement once the system is up and running.

AstroBreak

Select Wednesdays | FREE
12:15-12:45 p.m.

Summer 2017 Schedule:

July 12

Summer Constellations

Speaker: Jean Creighton

>Get ready for relaxed summer evenings: find some favorites such as the Big Dipper and discover Hercules and the Summer Triangle.

July 26

Astronomy from the Outback: The Murchison Widefield Array

Speaker: David Kaplan

>Over the last 4 years the MWA has observed everything from our Earth's atmosphere to galaxies billions of lightyears away, and I will talk about what we have learned and how we are working to design the next generation telescope.

August 23

Gravity in the Eyes of Prof.

Einstein: A Strange Theory that Actually Works!

Speaker: Shasvath Kapadia

> In 1915, Albert Einstein presented a theory of gravity that was so bizarre, it almost bordered on science-fiction. Come join us as we try to build an intuitive picture of what this theory all about.

STARGAZING

Join us on the observing deck as we peer through telescopes at the stars, planets, and moons. Visit our website for directions to the observing deck.

9-10pm • July 28 • August 4, 11

FREE