



MEDIA ALERT | For Immediate Release

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Contact: Connie George

Mobile: 412.638.7029

GeorgeC@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

Contact: Megan McKenzie

Office: 412.237.3442 / Mobile: 304.723.8660

McKenzieM@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

SCIENCE CENTER TO HOST SPACE OUT! ASTRONOMY WEEKEND

FEATURING STELLAR ACTIVITIES, ASTRONOMY PRESENTATIONS, MOON ROCKS

PITTSBURGH, March 1, 2018 — Carnegie Science Center will host its annual Space Out! Astronomy weekend on Saturday, March 10, and Sunday, March 11. Activities will run from 10 am – 4 pm each day, and include an immersive exploration of space through hands-on activities, special guests, the latest astronomical news, Planetarium shows, and interactive tables.

Astronomy fans can discover how to navigate the stars, get an up-close look at moon rocks and meteorites, and learn about telescopes. The Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh will be on-site to share their expertise.

Make-and-take activities will offer a chance for guests to make a comet, create simulated Mars soil, and craft a sundial.

Weather permitting on Saturday and Sunday, Safe Solar Observing will be available from 11 am – 4 pm. Experts will demonstrate the proper techniques to safely observe the Sun and other solar phenomena.

On Saturday, speakers will discuss astronomy topics in the Buhl Planetarium:

➤ **Amazing Stats of the Universe**, presented by Eric Fischer, **Noon**

Amazing Stats of the Universe takes a different look at the Sun, planets, stars, and galaxies by revealing mind-boggling facts about each. These facts are presented in everyday terms that are familiar to the public and do not use complex scientific terminology. For example: Did you know if Saturn's rings were shrunk to the size of Heinz Field, they would be only as thick as a piece of tissue paper?

➤ **Storms in Space**, presented by Dr. Amy Keese, **1 pm**

Join Dr. Amy Keesee from the Physics and Astronomy Department at West Virginia University as she talks about current NASA heliophysics research on solar activity and its implications to Earth, as well as how school-age children can learn about the Sun, science, and space.

➤ **The Three Most Important Images of Our Universe**, presented by Dr. Andrew Zentner, **2 pm**

Dr. Andrew Zentner from the University of Pittsburgh's Particle Physics, Astrophysics, and Cosmology Center will take you on a tour of our Universe that will include a look at stars, galaxies, and a review of the entire history of our Universe. The basis of the discussion will be three amazing astronomical images that contains a wealth of information about our Universe and our place in the Universe.

➤ **Stargazing, Myths, and Ancient Folklore**, presented by Larry McHenry, **3 pm**

Join Larry McHenry from the Kiski Astronomers, as he presents an introduction to the constellations and their human interpretations over the ages in the Buhl Planetarium. Discover where the constellations came from, and their meaning, along with some of the ancient myths and folklore of the night sky.

On Sunday, Anna Voelker will discuss astronomy topics in the Buhl Planetarium:

➤ **Astronomy and Accessibility**, presented by Anna Voelker, **3 pm**

Join Anna Voelker, NASA space weather forecaster, as she talks about astronomy accessibility for people with disabilities in the Buhl Planetarium. She uses 3D printing and theater games to make science more inclusive for those who are blind or on the autism spectrum.

Space Out! activities are included with general admission.

Space Out! Astronomy Weekend is sponsored by WISH 99.7.

For more information, visit CarnegieScienceCenter.org or call 412.237.3400.

About Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

Accessibility: Features for All

Carnegie Science Center welcomes all visitors. We work to assist visitors with disabilities in obtaining reasonable and appropriate accommodations, and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities. We welcome visitors in wheelchairs on the deck of our USS Requin (SS 481) submarine. Below-deck visits require full mobility. Hearing assistance devices are available for The Rangos Giant Cinema. Please ask when you buy your ticket.

Please note that requests for accommodations should be made at least two weeks prior to your visit. For specific questions about wheelchairs, strollers, or other programmatic or equipment needs, see the ticket counter located on the first floor of the main building or contact Customer Service at 412.237.1641 or info@carnegiesciencecenter.org. Please contact Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's Accessibility Coordinator with concerns regarding accessibility for visitors with disabilities at the museums. On weekdays, call 412.622.6578 or email accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2017, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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