

MEDIA ALERT | JUNE 23, 2022

Contact: Sarah Reichle
412.638.4548

<mailto:ReichleS@CarnegieScienceCenter.org>

Contact: Connie George
412.638.7029

GeorgeC@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

**ASTRONOMY EXPERT HIRED TO LEAD BUHL PLANETARIUM AND
SERVE AS A RESOURCE TO THE COMMUNITY**

Daniel Horenstein, former astronomy professor, onboarded as the Science Center completes major upgrades to Pittsburgh's iconic institution

PITTSBURGH, PA (June 23, 2022)— Carnegie Science Center is pleased to announce the appointment of former professor and astronomy expert, Daniel Horenstein as Manager of Buhl Planetarium & Observatory.

Horenstein has a Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy from Columbia University and a Master of Science in Physics with an Astronomy Concentration from Georgia State University. His research interests include the formation of planetary systems; the application of machine learning to astronomy; and most importantly, the practice of science education. “As we open our new, highly-renovated and technologically advanced theater, it’s with great excitement that we have Daniel leading the team – and inspiring our next generation of educators and science explorers,” says Jason Brown, The Henry Buhl, Jr., Director of Carnegie Science Center. “Daniel’s experience and expertise in astronomy make him a fantastic addition and a resource to the Pittsburgh regional community as well,” said Brown.

Horenstein has academic experience through roles at Columbia University and Georgia State University, and most recently, Santa Ana College. His research experience includes analyzing large sets of data, with projects spanning from measuring black hole masses to identifying possible planetary systems that are still in the process of forming. He has completed a variety of volunteer projects since 2012, from answering crowd questions at the World Science Festival to educating students on the wonders of our Solar System. He planned the only satellite event in Georgia for the national White House Astronomy Night in 2015 and taught the lab component of introductory astronomy to undergraduate students at Georgia State. At Santa Ana College, Horenstein rose in the ranks from Assistant Professor of Astronomy and Director of the Tessmann Planetarium to assume the position of Physics and Astronomy Co-Chair. He earned tenure at the end of his fourth year and was named Associate Professor of Astronomy.

Horenstein emphasizes the importance of sharing the knowledge of astronomy and making these insights available to everyone. “Science is not a secret society” says Horenstein. “Sharing the excitement of the Universe through immersive learning experiences is critical for inspiring the scientists and engineers of tomorrow. The renovated Buhl Planetarium provides an exceptional opportunity to continue Carnegie Science Center’s legacy of making astronomy

approachable and can play a key role in supporting career pipelines for our space and high-tech industry partners in Pittsburgh.”

Buhl Planetarium has been a “theater of the stars,” enjoyed by generations of Pittsburghers for 80 years, with in-house produced theatric shows distributed to 1,500 planetariums around the world and translated into 18 different languages. “Buhl Planetarium programs dive into the beauty and complexity of our universe. Creating and delivering these programs requires strong leadership from someone like Daniel who understands and can manage the evolving innovation of science learning experiences,” says Brown.

To learn more visit CarnegieScienceCenter.org.

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.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a family of four dynamic, distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. The museums reach 1.5 million people a year through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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 contact Customer Service at 412.237.1641 or info@carnegiesciencecenter.org. accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org.