



The Starry Messenger

THE BIGGEST & BEST IN THE METROPLEX!

Attendance Doubled Over Last Year



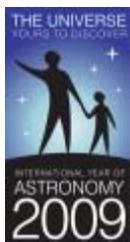
The Planetarium is pleased to announce that our public show attendance has more than doubled since last year!

The staff at the Planetarium would like to thank everyone who has helped make this year so successful at the Planetarium.

With a wider range of new shows and an improved website, the public is more aware of what the Planetarium has to offer. It is important to have many different types of shows to cater to the wide variety of people visiting the Planetarium, from UTA staff and students, to elementary schools and daycares, and everyone in between; the Planetarium has something to offer.

To continue this upward trend, the Planetarium will continue to bring in new and exciting shows that will keep the public's interest, and reach out to community groups for support.

Astronomy Day



The Planetarium will be joining forces with the Texas Astronomical Society this October to host Astronomy Day.

Digistar 4 Upgrade



The latest upgrade to the Planetarium is scheduled for the end of September.

Digistar 4, the newest planetarium software from Evans and Sutherland, will be installed in the Planetarium from September 28 - October 9. This state of the art software update will allow the Planetarium to show you the universe like never before! Imagine seeing the far side of the Moon, or traveling to a distant star to see it up close. Study the surface of the Sun, or the spiral arms of a distant galaxy. Even watch a show in 3D!

When planetarium software company, Evans and Sutherland announced Digistar 4 last fall, the Planetarium at UT Arlington was one of the first in line. The upgrades will take nearly two weeks to complete, during which time the Planetarium will be closed, but the wait will be well worth it.

Get to Know Your Educator:

Sonja Godeken



Sonja Godeken loves Astronomy and has introduced the subject to many students during her years as a high school teacher. Her interest in Astronomy greatly contributed to her participation in several

Astronomy Day will be held on October 24th from 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm at the Planetarium. Mark your calendars!

This all day Astronomy event will feature speakers, displays, planetarium shows and demonstrations from the Texas Astronomical Society, National Space Society of North Texas and the Planetarium. Don't miss out!

Weather permitting, telescopes will be looking at the sun throughout the day, and the Moon, planets and other objects that evening.

Bring the family for an hour or two, or stay all day. There will be food, fun and Astronomy all afternoon. Keep your eyes on the Starry Messenger and our website in the coming months for more information regarding this exciting event.

Hope to see you there!

Moon Day at the Frontiers of Flight Museum



The Planetarium would like to congratulate the Frontiers of Flight Museum and the National Space Society of North Texas (NSS) for hosting a very successful Moon Day Celebration on July 19th.

Our Planetarium staff brought along a display with exciting show trailers and information about the Planetarium to share with everyone. We even had many new people sign up for the Starry Messenger.

Space related events like Moon Day are important for the community because it increases public awareness of important topics in Astronomy, and allows local astronomy clubs and organizations to

NASA Education Programs, including working for a year at NASA headquarters in Washington, D.C. She especially enjoyed doing research for a poster at the National Air and Space Museum during her year there.

When Sonja was an undergraduate student, she had the chance to operate her college planetarium and loved every minute of it. This spring, when she saw the posting for a planetarium educator at UTA, she jumped at the opportunity. Sonja is excited to share her fascination with Astronomy with everyone who visits the Planetarium.

When she isn't giving planetarium presentations, Sonja teaches classes in the UTA Mathematics Department. She enjoys working with University students and helping them to reach their goals. In her spare time, Sonja enjoys reading, walking, swimming, traveling and escaping the heat of Texas summers whenever she can!

40th Anniversary of the Moon Landing



Following the huge success of Moon Day at the Frontiers of Flight Museum, the Planetarium hosted a very successful Moon Landing Anniversary.

On July 20th, the 40th Anniversary of Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin walking on the Moon, the Planetarium opened its doors to the public with a free show and new exhibit in the atrium.

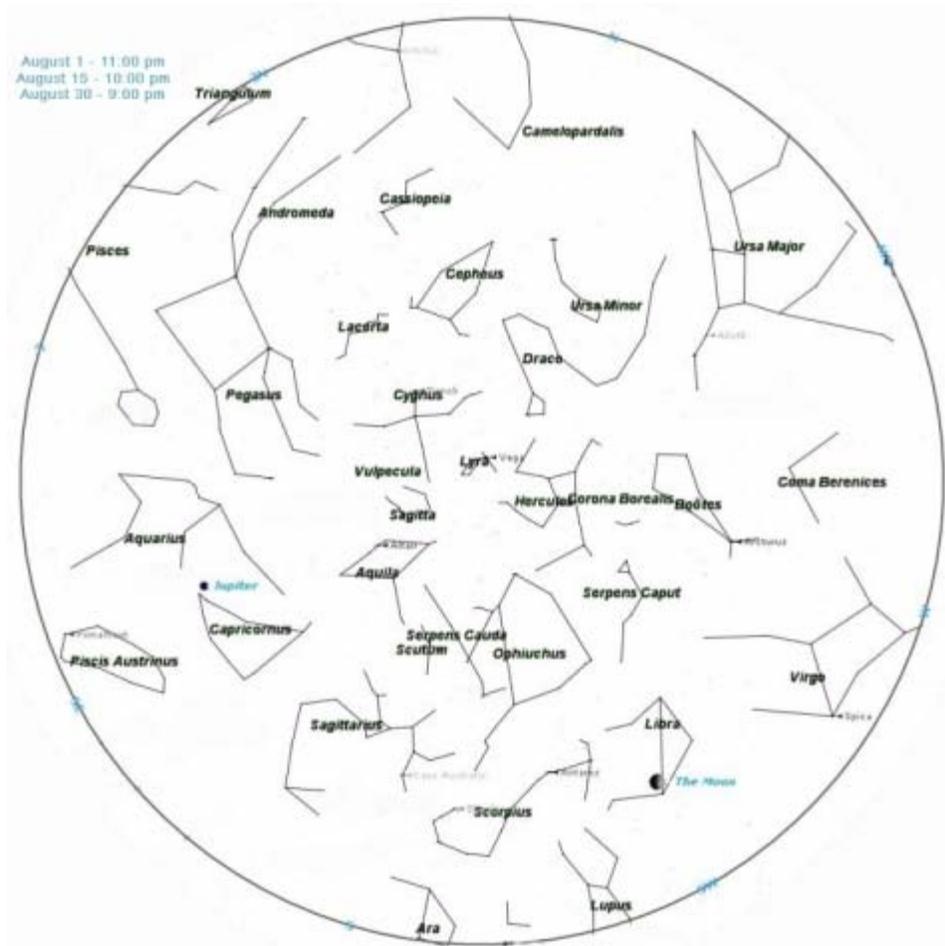
The audience of a packed Planetarium theater watched Mirage 3D's *Dawn of the Space Age*, and watched in awe as the first steps on the surface of the Moon were recreated in the Planetarium dome.

The atrium houses a new permanent Moon exhibit which features documents and photos from the Apollo 11 mission, including the technical drawings of the

come together to get the public excited about what they have to offer for the community.

The Staff at the Planetarium wishes NSS and the Frontiers of Flight a big "Thank You" for allowing us to participate in this event!

Lunar Lander, the Apollo 11 Flight Plan, and a map of the Lunar surface depicting the landing site of the Apollo 11 crew. These documents are housed in the National Archives in Fort Worth. The National Archives and Records Administration has graciously made very high quality reproductions for the Planetarium to display.



Planetarium at UT Arlington

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