



## Romancing the Stars: Special Valentine's Show



It's not too late to purchase your tickets for Romancing the Stars, our special couples only show. Tickets should be purchased in advance by contacting the [Planetarium](#).

Showtimes are:

February 13th at 7:00 and 9:00

February 14th at 3:30 and 5:00

Tickets are \$20/couple and include a box of chocolates and rose.

Or, rent the Planetarium for a 1 hour private "Dinner Under the Stars" for just \$250, Italian dinner and wine service included!

Sorry, "Dinner Under the Stars" is **sold out**.

## Astronaut Sally Ride at UTA February 15th at 8:00 pm



One of America's most-famous and most-beloved astronauts, Ride became the first American woman in space when she joined the STS-7 crew on June 18, 1983.

## Astronomy and Stargazing: New Class for the Public



Astronomy! People are drawn to it naturally. Whether it's a gorgeous night sky far from city lights, an exquisite Hubble Space Telescope picture of colorful nebula or a powerful panoramic view of Mars, we admire the destinations beyond our planet Earth.

In this introductory level class, we'll explore all these and more using the Planetarium at UT Arlington and telescopes for a hands-on experience.

This class meets Thursdays from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, February 18th - March 25th. Enrollment is \$115/person.

For more information or to enroll please visit the [Continuing Education](#) website.

## Stuck Rover on Mars Can Still Do Science



NASA's beleaguered Mars rover Spirit may no longer be much of a rover, but it's not the end of the road for her yet. The semi-stuck

At the time, she was also the youngest American (32)—male or female—ever to enter space. Ride flew two Shuttle missions, totaling more than two weeks in space.

In the wake of the 1986 *Challenger* disaster, Ride was named to the Presidential Commission investigating the accident and authored NASA's first strategic plan. She also served on the Space Shuttle Columbia Accident Investigation Board in 2003.

Ride is now a professor of physics at the University of California at San Diego and is president and CEO of Sally Ride Science, which focuses on getting children, especially girls, interested in science.

Ride's lecture is part of the Maverick Speaker's Series and coincides with the 50th Anniversary celebration of UT Arlington's College of Engineering.

Tickets are required, but free. To get yours please go the [Maverick Speakers Series site](#).

**Support the Planetarium:  
Become a member!**



Memberships are a great way to get involved with the Planetarium and help support our mission, and it comes with great benefits!

**Benefits include:**

- Free tickets to the Planetarium
- Discount to our gift shop
- Free star maps
- Invitation to our annual "Reach for

robot still has plenty of science left to do on the red planet, mission scientists say.

"There's actually a whole class of scientific objectives that you can only address from a vehicle that doesn't move. So far we've pretty much tended to ignore those," said rover mission principal investigator Steven Squyres of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

Squyres and other mission managers [announced last week](#) that they were halting the effort to free [Spirit](#) from the sand trap it has been stuck in since May and shifting efforts to preparing the rover for the upcoming Martian winter.

The rover's handlers will try over the next week to position the rover to maximize the amount of solar radiation it receives to give it the best chance of making it through the winter.

Find out what the Martian winter will bring for the Mars Rovers and read the rest of the article from [SPACE.com here](#).

**Membership Corner:  
Allan Saxe**



Welcome to the new Starry Messenger feature, the Membership Corner. Here we will highlight some of the members of the Planetarium that have helped support our mission in a stellar way.

We start this column with Dr. Allan Saxe.

Dr. Saxe is an associate professor of Political Science here at UTA. He was born in Oklahoma and received his Ph.D. from

the Stars" event

the University of Oklahoma.

**Membership categories:**

**Star** - \$40 - Receive 2 FREE tickets to each new show

**Solar System** - \$60 - Receive 4 FREE tickets to each new show

**Star Cluster** - \$100 - Receive 6 FREE tickets to each new show

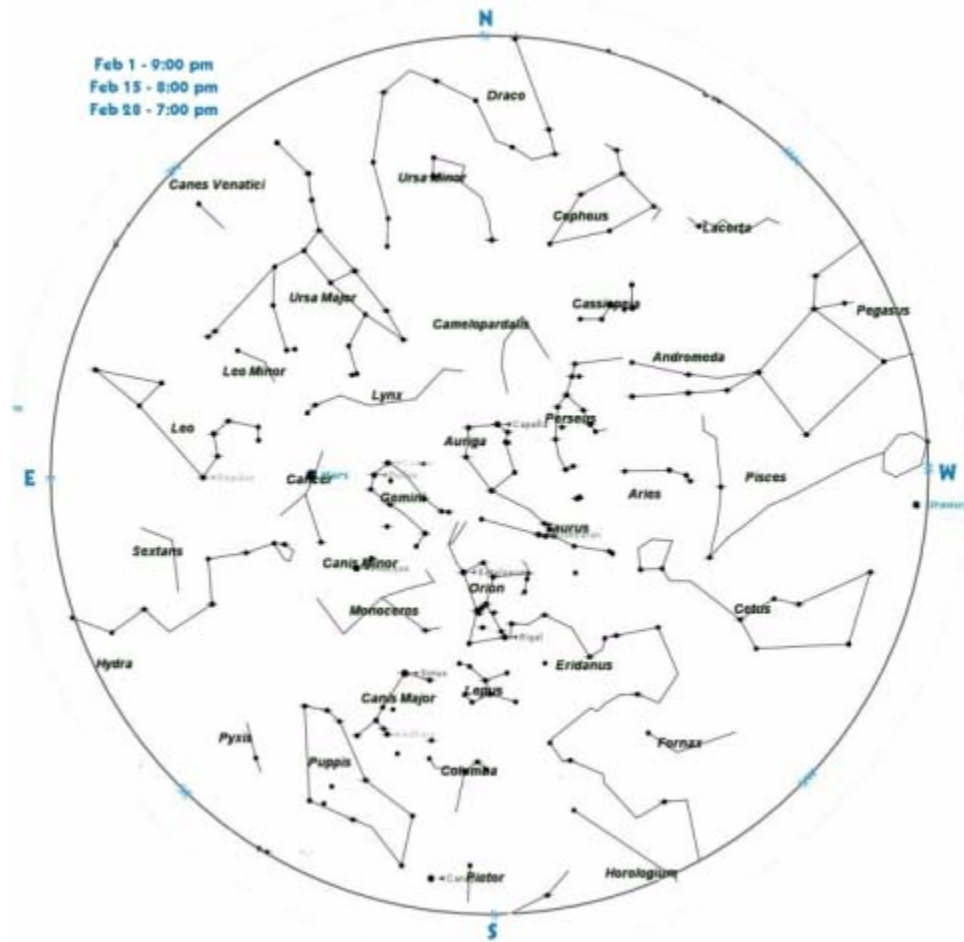
**Galaxy** - \$1000 - Receive 8 FREE tickets to each new show, plus a personalized chair in the Planetarium theater!

"The Planetarium is wonderful, and I have always loved astronomy and all its varied disciplines", says Saxe.

"Astronomy, in my layman's terms, brings us all down to size. It can lift us out of this earth and take us to far away places."

We would like to thank Dr. Saxe for the Planetarium Endowment that he began. Thanks to the Maverick Match, UT Arlington will double Dr. Saxe's donation with money earned from the natural gas wells. This is the largest gift to the Planetarium at UT Arlington to date.

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