



# The Starry Messenger

THE BIGGEST & BEST IN THE METROPLEX!

## Astronomy Day May 22nd



The Planetarium and the Texas Astronomical Society (TAS) are teaming up to give you Astronomy Day on Saturday, May 22nd

from 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm.

Join us for observing Jupiter, Saturn, and the moon in the evening, and for free demonstrations and presentations, and discounted planetarium shows throughout the day.

Members will receive 1 free ticket to our shows; everyone else pays kid's price!

Planetarium shows will include:

- Astronaut
- Violent Universe
- One World, One Sky
- Two Small Pieces of Glass

This event is free and open to the public!

More information and the complete schedule of events can be found on our [events page](#).

Out-of-Control Satellite  
Threatens Other Nearby  
Spacecraft

## Elmo and Friends are Coming in May!



Be the first to see Big Bird, Elmo and their new friend from China, Hu Hu Zhu in our newest show; "One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure!"

Due to the overwhelming demand for this show since we announced it last month, the Planetarium has decided to open it to the public this May!

Starting on May 1st and running through June 6th we will be showing "One World, One Sky" on the following days:

- Saturdays at 1:00
- Sundays at 1:30

In this wonderful new show for kindergarten and preschoolers, audiences will get to discover the night sky with Big Bird, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu. Together they locate the Big Dipper, the North Star and the moon in the night sky. Use your imagination to explore the moon. Return to Earth and discover that even though we live far away, we all live under the same sky.

First Light for the Solar Dynamics  
Observatory



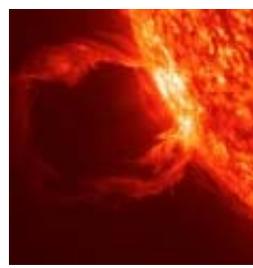
An adrift Intelsat satellite that stopped communicating with its ground controllers last month remains out of

control and has begun moving eastward along the geostationary arc, raising the threat of interference with other satellites in its path, Intelsat and other industry officials said.

In what industry officials called an unprecedented event, Intelsat's Galaxy 15 communications satellite has remained fully "on," with its C-band telecommunications payload still functioning even as it has left its assigned orbital slot of 133 degrees west longitude 36,000 kilometers over the equator.

Galaxy 15 stopped responding to ground controllers on April 5. The satellite's manufacturer, Orbital Sciences Corp. of Virginia, has said an [intense solar storm](#) in early April may be to blame. It was launched into space in 2005.

This article was written by the staff at Space.com. Please read the rest of the article [here](#).



April 21, 2010: Warning, the images you are about to see could take your breath away.

At a press conference today in Washington DC, researchers unveiled "First Light" images from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory, a space telescope designed to study the sun.

"SDO is working beautifully," reports project scientist Dean Pesnell of the Goddard Space Flight Center. "This is even better than we could have dreamed."

Launched on February 11th from Cape Canaveral, the observatory has spent the past two months moving into a geosynchronous orbit and activating its instruments. As soon as SDO's telescope doors opened, the spacecraft began beaming back scenes so beautiful and puzzlingly complex that even seasoned observers were stunned.

This article was written by the staff at NASA's Science News. Please read the rest of the article and watch the stunning video [here](#).

## 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

## Membership Corner: Amy Osborn



Amy Osborn serves as the Assistant to the Dean for the College of Science. She recently celebrated her 20<sup>th</sup> year of service at UT Arlington. Her ties to the university are strong and go way back. Her mother, father, aunt, and uncle all attended Arlington State College, and she recently received her degree in the fall. Her grandfather also

- Free Star Maps
- Invitation to our annual "Reach for the Stars" event

### Membership Categories:

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

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

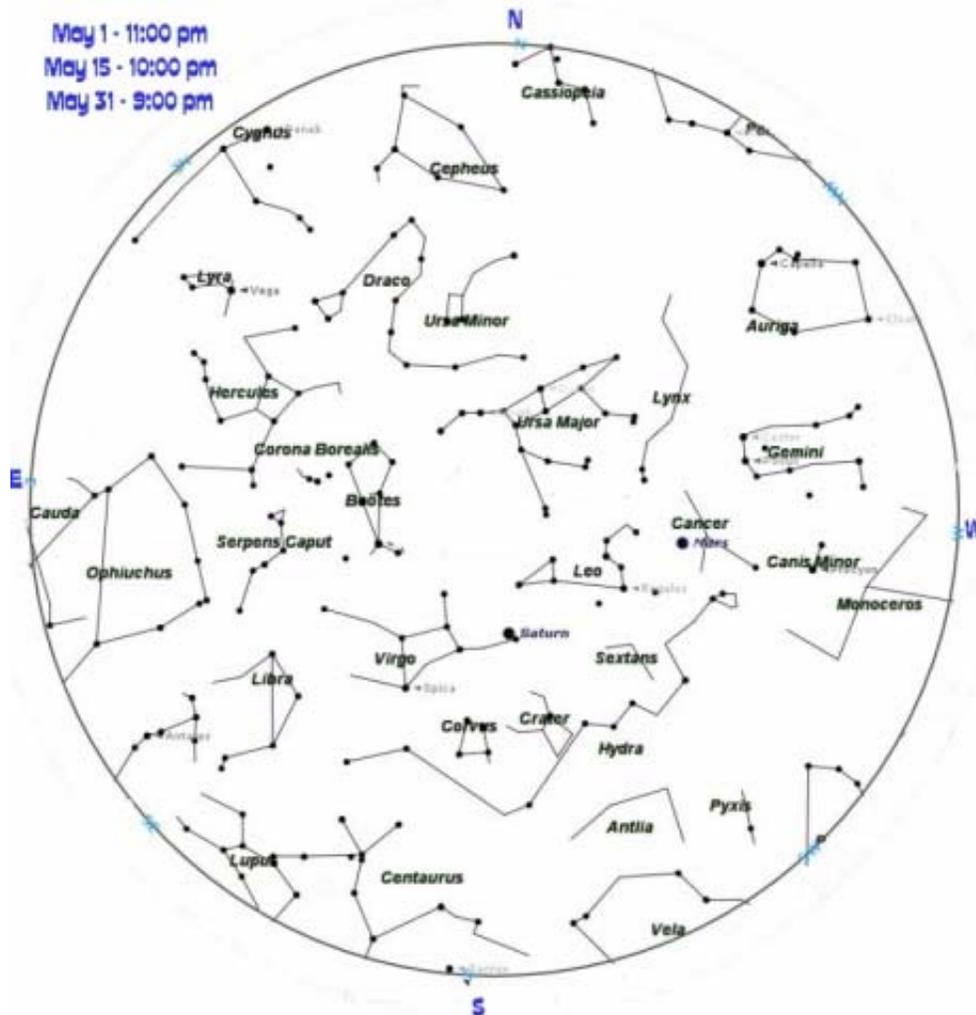
**Star Cluster** - \$100 - Receive 6 free tickets to each new show

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

[Apply online](#) today!

served as the Arlington State College rifle team coach. Amy considers UT Arlington as her extended family, and is proud to be a Maverick.

"I was lucky enough to be one of the founding members of the Planetarium," Osborn said. "During the construction of the Planetarium, I was working in the Physics Department. I assisted the Digistar team with the installation schedule for the new systems in the Chemistry and Physics Building and Preston Hall. It was very exciting to see such a state-of-the-art system being installed on *our* campus. Knowing my contribution would allow UT Arlington to purchase more shows that would appeal to guests of all ages made the decision easy. In addition, I will always have my very own chair to sit back and relax in while gazing at the stars."



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