

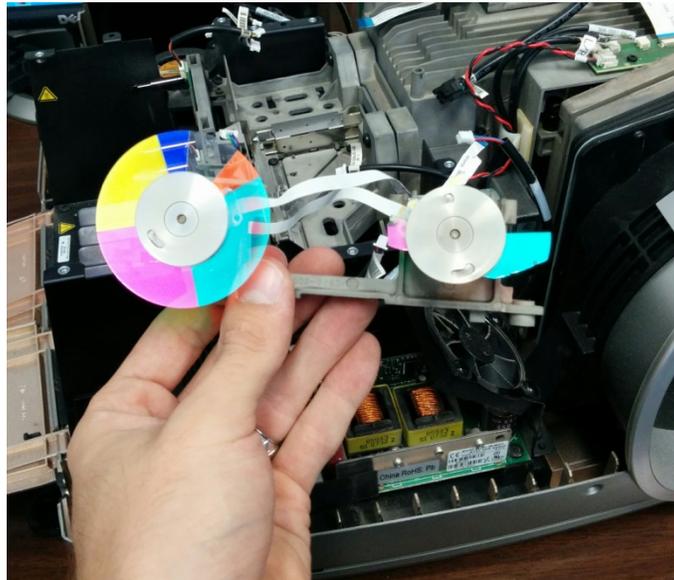
700 Planetarium Place
Arlington, TX 76019
(817) 272 1183
planetarium@uta.edu
<http://www.utaplanetarium.com>

PLANETARIUM The University of Texas at Arlington

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Replacing Color Wheels



We want to make sure that you always get the greatest image from our projectors. To that end, we've been replacing the color wheels in all 6 of our projectors.

Color wheels are fast spinning disks inside our DLP projectors that create the intense and beautiful colors for all of our shows. Under the direct light of projector bulbs, these color wheels eventually fade or become milky. This causes the image to look white, or the colors may not be as vivid. When multiple projectors are used, like at the Planetarium, faded color wheels can make blend lines – where two projector images meet – more obvious due to the differences in color. This is when we know it is time to perform this regular maintenance on our projectors.

So come see what a difference new color wheels can make this fall at the Planetarium!

Planetarium Open House Nights - Extended!



Due to the popularity of our Open House Nights in September, we've decided to extend them another month! We're offering free shows every Tuesday at 5:00 pm through October during our Open House Nights. Each week we'll play a different title from our show catalog. Check out the line-up below!

October 7

5:00 pm – [Experience the Aurora](#)

Over seven months in the Arctic Circle, crews captured timelapse images of the Aurora Borealis with high resolution digital SLR cameras outfitted with fisheye lenses. The results are spectacular!

October 14

5:00 pm – [Black Holes](#)

Few mysteries in the universe have the power and awe of the black hole. Only now are we on the verge of understanding their true nature. What are they? How are they made? Is the Earth in danger of being pulled into one? Discover the answers in the Clark Planetarium's most popular original fulldome production *Black Holes*.

October 21

5:00 pm – [TimeSpace](#)

TimeSpace transports audiences across the Universe over 14 billion years to see and experience the Big Bang, the Doom of the Dinosaurs, the sudden appearance of Halley's Comet in the Yucatán Sky, Apollo 11's moonlanding and man's first steps on the moon, and a leap into the future to 3001.

October 28

5:00 pm – [Stars of the Pharaohs](#)

Travel to ancient Egypt to see how science was used to tell time, make a workable calendar, and align huge buildings. You'll learn about the connection the ancient Egyptians felt with the stars and various astronomical phenomena. And thanks to the time Digital Theater's production team spent on location in Egypt taking photographs and measurements, you'll see some of the most spectacular temples and tombs of the ancient world recreated in their original splendor.

Astronomy Day



Come celebrate astronomy with the Planetarium, Texas Astronomical Society, Fort Worth Astronomical Society, and the National Space Society of North Texas at our annual Astronomy Day, Saturday, October 25th from 2:00 – 10:00 pm!

We'll have free space lectures, discounted planetarium shows, telescopes looking at the Sun, planets and stars (weather permitting), raffles and so much more!

Check out our website in the coming weeks for a detailed schedule of events. Come for the whole day, or just a few events. Astronomy Day is free for everyone!

Total Lunar Eclipse



Get up early on Wednesday, October 8 to see a total lunar eclipse! From the east coast of North America, totality begins at 6:25 a.m. EDT, NASA [reports](#). The moon will be hanging low over the western horizon, probably swollen by the famous [moon illusion](#) into a seemingly-giant red orb, briefly visible before daybreak. Observers on the West Coast are even better positioned. The moon will be high in the sky as totality slowly plays out between 3:25 a.m. and 4:24 a.m. PDT.

NASA's longtime eclipse expert Fred Espenak said:

It promises to be a stunning sight, even from the most light polluted cities. I encourage everyone, especially families with curious children, to go out and enjoy the event.

Eclipse Times:

Partial umbral eclipse begins: 4:15 a.m. CDT on October 8

Total eclipse begins: 5:25 a.m. CDT

Greatest eclipse: 5:55 a.m. CDT

Total eclipse ends: 6:24 a.m. CDT

Partial eclipse ends: 7:34 a.m. CDT

Find out more about lunar eclipses by following the links from [EarthSky](#).

Partial Solar Eclipse



North America has a ringside seat to the partial eclipse of the sun on Thursday, October 23, and this eclipse is almost exclusively visible on land from North America. [Eye safety](#) is of the **utmost importance** in observing this solar eclipse, or else you risk eye injury or blindness.

[Find out if an astronomy club or observatory near you is hosting a public viewing of this eclipse.](#)

In the DFW area, the partial eclipse starts at 4:48 p.m. and ends at 5:53 p.m. 29% of the Sun will be covered by the Moon at greatest eclipse.

The image above was taken during the partial solar eclipse on May 20, 2012 by our program coordinator, Amy Barraclough.

Find out more about the partial solar eclipse by following the links from [EarthSky](#).