

Morrison Planetarium Open House Schedule

FINAL Version • 15 January 2015

Thursday, 5 February 2015

18:00	NightLife	Academy	Cheryl Vanderbilt & Paulo Vergara
18:30	Earth Update	Planetarium	Tim Horn, Dan Tell, & Ryan Wyatt
19:30	Habitat Earth	Planetarium	Planetarium Presenter
20:30	Habitat Earth	Planetarium	Planetarium Presenter

Friday, 6 February 2015

8:30	Light Snacks, Meet & Greet	Boardroom	Cheryl Vanderbilt
9:00	Welcome	Boardroom	Ryan Wyatt
9:15	From Stardust to Skeletons	Hohfeld Hall	Dan Brady
9:30	Introduction to Morrison	Planetarium	Michael Garza
10:00	Break		
10:15	What is Viz?	Boardroom	Ryan Wyatt
11:15	Habitat Earth	Planetarium	
12:00	Making-of Habitat Earth	Boardroom	Tom Kennedy, Mike Schmitt, & Ryan Wyatt
13:00	Lunch on Your Own	Off Site	
14:45	Visualization Studio Tour	B1C24	Tom Kennedy & Shauna Lacoste
15:15	AVEE Tour	L3 Support Area	Michael Garza
15:45	Break		
16:00	Ethnoastronomy	Boardroom	Sarah Leach
17:00	Break		
17:30	Earth Is My Witness	Planetarium	Cheryl Vanderbilt
18:00	Tour of NASA Ames Data	Planetarium	Brian Day & Dan Tell
18:30	Back to the Moon for Good	Planetarium	
19:00	Dinner on Your Own	Off Site	

Saturday, 7 February 2015

9:00	Light Snacks, Meet & Greet	Boardroom	Cheryl Vanderbilt
9:15	Planetarium Show	Planetarium	
10:00	Introduction to the Academy	Boardroom	Bing Quock & Ryan Wyatt
10:45	Case Study I	Boardroom	Michael Garza, Dan Tell, Matthew Wrenne, & Milan Bhatt
11:30	Break		
11:45	Case Study II	Boardroom	Michael Garza, Dan Tell, Matthew Wrenne, & Milan Bhatt
12:30	Lunch on Your Own	Off Site	
14:15	Extreme Life	Hohfeld Hall	Planetarium Presenter
14:45	Using Alternative Venues for Astronomy Visualization	Boardroom	Josh Roberts & Elise Ricard
15:30	Break		
15:45	Presenter versus Playback	Boardroom	Ryan Wyatt

Below, please find brief descriptions of the programs we plan to share with attendees, presented in the order in which they appear in the agenda for the three days.

NightLife

Thursday, 5 February, 6:00–10:00 p.m.

Check out the Academy's highly successful cocktails-and-science program! Every Thursday night a new adventure unfolds. Set out with friends on a journey to the stars and to the depths of the sea with a cocktail in your hand and wonder in your eyes—only at NightLife at the California Academy of Sciences! 21 and over, ID required for entry.

Earth Update

Thursday, 5 February, 6:30 p.m.

What's the latest from Planet Earth? Using actual data from NASA, NOASS, and other sources, discover what's up on our blue planet! An immersive look at current, news-making developments in climate study, biodiversity, and the geosciences will give new meaning to the word "planet-arium." *Tim Horn*, Director of the Berlin Großplanetarium, *Dan Tell*, Senior Planetarium & Production Engineer, and *Ryan Wyatt*, Director of Morrison Planetarium & Science Visualization, will take you around the globe to study the most amazing world of all... The one we live on!

Habitat Earth

Thursday, 5 February, 7:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Friday, 6 February, 11:30 a.m.

We think of ourselves as self-sufficient, but humans live within an intricate network of planets, animals, and other life forms that support us in myriad ways. In this new show from the California Academy of Sciences, discover the beauty, variety, and vast complexity of these relationships—from the food webs of San Francisco Bay to the mutually beneficial partnerships in a forest community. You'll learn how life changes our planet—and how we benefit from our connections to the life that surrounds us.

Hohfeld Hall Programs

Friday, 6 February, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 7 February, 2:15 p.m.

The queuing area for Morrison Planetarium includes a high-resolution display that presenters use to deliver brief, live programming in the space ten minutes after planetarium shows begin. We will highlight two different programs during the Open House: *From Stardust to Skeletons* on Friday and *Extreme Life* on Saturday.

Introducing the Morrison

Friday, 6 February, 9:30 a.m.

Head of Planetarium Production Engineering, *Michael Garza*, will provide a behind the scenes walk-through of Morrison Planetarium.

What is Viz?

Friday, 6 February, 10:15 a.m.

We often talk about "visualization," particularly when it comes to science data. But what does it mean? Visual representation of data can reveal otherwise hidden relationships and patterns, and it offers a wide public exposure to authentic science discoveries. *Ryan Wyatt*, Director of Morrison Planetarium and Science Visualization, will offer a personal perspective on how we can use visuals to make sense of the burgeoning universe of science data.

Making of Habitat Earth

Friday, 6 February, 12:00 p.m.

A look behind the scenes of what went into creating our newest show, *Habitat Earth*. From creature animation and multi-camera photography to data visualization and procedural fungus, the Visualization Studio production team will share the visual effects secrets behind the storytelling.

Visualization Studio Tour

Friday, 6 February, 2:45 p.m.

Head of Production *Tom Kennedy* will guide a behind-the-scenes tour of the Academy's visualization studio, and along the way, you'll have an opportunity to meet the entire studio team: Digital Media Supervisor *Mike Schmitt*, Senior Technical Director *Jeroen Lapré*, Technical Director *Matt Blackwell*, Animator and Motion Graphics Artist *Ken Ackerman*, Editor and Videographer *Nick Perez*, Production Support Engineer *Kira Hammond*, and Production Coordinator *Shauna Lacoste*.

Audio-Visual and Electrical Engineering (AVEE) Tour

Friday, 6 February, 3:15 p.m.

Planetarium and production activities at the Academy require a significant investment of time, effort, and expertise in supporting technology—from fulldome display and playback to production workstations and rendering. Planetarium and Production Engineering Manager *Michael Garza* will lead a back-of-house tour, during which time you may have the chance to interact with the Assistant Director of AVEE *Dean Do*, Senior Planetarium & Production Engineer *Dan Tell*, Audio and Planetarium Support Engineer *Matthew Wrenne*, and Production and Planetarium Support Engineer *Milan Bhatt*.

Ethnoastronomy

Friday, 6 February, 4:00 p.m.

Explore the night sky from the viewpoint of different cultures around the globe.

Earth Is My Witness

Friday, 6 February, 5:30 p.m.

In this first-ever fulldome program featuring the images of world-renowned photographer Art Wolfe, we take you through Art's breathtaking images of landscapes, wildlife, and cultures of the world, all specially reformatted and choreographed for the dome by Planetarium Department and Media Production Coordinator *Cheryl Vanderbilt*.

Tour of NASA Ames Data

Friday, 6 February, 6:00 p.m.

Dan Tell will fly around the Moon, exploring new data provided by Brian Day. Other stops on our journey may include Vesta and Mars.

Back to the Moon for Good

Friday, 6 February, 6:30 p.m.

Immerse yourself in a race to the Moon 40 years after the historic Apollo landings. Learn about the history of lunar exploration, and the Moon's resources. Discover what humanity's future on the Moon might hold. See how a competition among privately funded international teams is ushering in a new era of lunar exploration. Narrated by Tim Allen, *Back to the Moon for Good* presents the Google Lunar XPRIZE, and the personal stories of competition and collaboration it inspires.

Planetarium Show: Your Choice

Saturday, 7 February, 9:15 a.m.

Haven't seen all of the Academy's productions yet? We will poll the group on Friday to determine which show to play Saturday morning.

Choices include:

Fragile Planet: Earth, our only known haven for life, inhabits a special place in the cosmos. But how special? Develop a renewed appreciation for our fragile planet through the lens of astronomy.

Life: A Cosmic Story: How did life on Earth begin? This tantalizing question forms the basis of Morrison Planetarium's second full-length production, *Life: A Cosmic Story*. Narrated by Academy Award winner Jodie Foster, *Life* launches the audience on a journey through time, witnessing key events since the Bing Bang that set the stage for life.

Earthquake: Evidence of a Restless Planet: Visit 1906 San Francisco and experience the city's most famous quake, witness the break-up of Pangaea 200 million years ago, and travel the globe in search of earth-shattering effects on humanity and civilization.

Dark Universe: How much of the Universe can we really see? Why is it expanding and what is the mysterious "dark energy" accelerating that expansion? What lies beyond our cosmic horizon? Written by best-selling author Timothy Ferris and narrated by Hayden Planetarium Director Neil deGrasse Tyson, *Dark Universe* is a celebration of the pivotal discoveries that have led us to greater knowledge of the structure and history of the cosmos... and our place within it. Produced in collaboration with the American Museum of Natural History.

Introducing the Academy

Friday, 7 February, 10:00 a.m.

Assistant Director of Morrison Planetarium *Bing Quock*, will share a brief history of Morrison Planetarium. Followed by Director of Morrison Planetarium and Science Visualization *Ryan Wyatt*, who will introduce the California Academy of Sciences, describe how the institution has chosen to approach planetarium and visualization content, and how that work plays into the larger strategic plans for the organization.

Case Study I

Friday, 7 February, 10:45 a.m.

A case study on the data assembly for the Benjamin Dean Lecture Featuring the research of Jackie Faherty. See how a variety of astronomical data was used to create and manage visually compelling datasets along with the illustration techniques to take the audience to these alien worlds.

Case Study II

Friday, 7 February, 11:45 a.m.

A look at Earth based assets used to create the October 2014 Earth Update presentation highlighting the work of "Canopy" Meg Lowman. The talk will include demonstrations of creating, importing, and optimizing GIS data, 2D, and 3D pano bubbles in Uniview to create a dynamic and compelling view of our own planet.

Using Alternative Venues for Astronomy Visualization

Friday, 7 February, 2:45 p.m.

Morrison Planetarium presenters take astronomy visualization and interpretation into new spaces with the Hohfeld Hall Space Science Exhibit, a 15' by 40' concave wall with edge-blended projectors that create a single 5k-by-1k image, via the same astronomy software employed in the planetarium. Join Senior Planetarium Presenters *Elise Ricard and Josh Roberts* in exploring the production process, highlighting the challenges and advantages of visualizing and interpreting astronomy outside the dome.

Presenter versus Playback (Roundtable)

Friday, 7 February, 2:45 p.m.

Discuss the pros and cons, strengths and weaknesses of fulldome digital playback and how it is changing planetariums across the world. Digital assets and media are powerful storytelling tools, offering enormous potential to those willing and able to use them to their greatest effect.

Participant Arrival

Please arrive at the *Business Entrance*, located on the south side of the building at *75 Nancy Pelosi Drive*, on all Open House event days. You will be required to check in and will receive an access badge that will allow you entry into the Academy. A member of our Planetarium Department will be there to greet you and guide you the first session of the day.

Daily Agenda

Please see this most recent version of this document at www.calacademy.org/licensing for updated times and event schedules.

Any Questions?

Your hosts for this open house will be the Director of Morrison Planetarium and Science Visualization *Ryan Wyatt*, Manager of Sales and Business Partnerships *Paulo Vergara*, and Planetarium Department and Media Production Coordinator *Cheryl Vanderbilt*, along with many others at the California Academy of Sciences. Feel free to get in touch with us with any questions by emailing planet-sales@calacademy.org.