



**CARNEGIE
SCIENCE
CENTER**

One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

MEDIA ALERT | For Immediate Release

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SCIENCE CENTER TO HOST SPACE OUT! ASTRONOMY WEEKEND

WEEKEND FEATURES STELLAR ACTIVITIES, ASTRONOMY PRESENTATIONS, MOON ROCKS

PITTSBURGH, March 10, 2017 – Carnegie Science Center will host its annual SpaceOut! Astronomy weekend on Saturday, March 25, and Sunday, March 26. Activities will run from 10 am – 4 pm each day.

The event offers an immersive exploration of space through hands-on activities, special guests, and interactive tables (see below). Armchair astronauts can take a guided tour of our own galaxy in the Buhl Planetarium, exploring the universe in stunning detail thanks to the Buhl's high-definition digital projection system.

Astronomy fans can discover how to navigate the stars, learn about telescopes, and get an up-close look at meteorites and Moon rocks. The Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh will be on-site to share their expertise.

Make-and-take activities will offer a chance for guests to play with some homemade Mars soil, make a comet, or craft a sundial or star clock.

Weather permitting on Saturday and Sunday, Safe Solar Observing will be available from 11 am – 4 pm. Experts will demonstrate the proper techniques to observe the Sun safely. Visitors also will learn about the August 21 total solar eclipse.

On Saturday only, speakers will discuss astronomy topics in the Buhl Planetarium:

➤ **Amazing Stats of the Universe**, presented by Eric Fischer, **Noon**

“Amazing Stats of the Universe” takes a different look at the Sun, planets, stars and galaxies, by revealing mind-boggling facts about each. These facts are presented in everyday terms that are familiar to the general public and do not use complex scientific terminology. For example: Did you

know if Saturn's rings were shrunk to the size of Heinz Field, they would be only as thick as a piece of tissue paper?

➤ **Pulsar Search Collaborative**, presented by Dr. Maura McLaughlin, **1 pm**

Dr. Maura McLaughlin, from the University of West Virginia's department of Physics and Astronomy will talk about how high school students, using radio astronomy data from the Green Bank Telescope, are searching for pulsars. Participants can watch the film about the Pulsar Search Collaborative, "Little Green Men."

➤ **Incredible Stories from Space**, presented by Dr. Andrew Zentner, **3 pm**

Dr. Andrew Zentner, of the University of Pittsburgh Particle Physics, Astrophysics and Cosmology Center, will update visitors on the latest astronomy news and space discoveries.

➤ **Beginners Guide to the Universe**, **4 pm**

Through the stunning graphic capabilities of the Buhl Planetarium, take a guided tour of the night sky! Travel beyond our solar system and even beyond our own Milky Way Galaxy to the farthest reaches of our cosmos.

SpaceOut! activities are included with general admission.

SpaceOut! is sponsored by WISH 99.7.

For more information, visit CarnegieScienceCenter.org or call 412.237.3400.

About Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Established in 1895 by Andrew Carnegie, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. In 2016, the museums reached more than 1.4 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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