

# **BIANCHI PLANETARIUM SCHEDULE JAN-MAR 2014**

**DURING FIRST HALF OF SPRING 2014 SEMESTER PLANETARIUM PROGRAMS WILL BE GIVEN EVERY OTHER FRIDAY EVENING AT 7:30pm and 8:30pm STARTING JAN-31. WEATHER PERMITTING TELESCOPE VIEWING OF CELESTIAL OBJECTS USING CSUN'S CAMPUS OBSERVATORY WILL FOLLOW EACH PROGRAM.**

## **Jan-31 7:30pm Winter Sky Show.**

Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this winter.

### **8:30pm Light Years from Andromeda: A journey between two galaxies spans human history – and reveals the secrets of the cosmos.**

A beam of light leaves a star in the Andromeda Galaxy and travels across the void of intergalactic space. For much of its journey the light traverses the nearly empty, cold, dark space between galaxies. In the meantime, on a planet in a neighboring galaxy, intelligent life begins to evolve. As the light speeds across the space over the course of many centuries, the primitives on the planet form culture and civilization and begin to wonder about the universe around them. Their awareness of the space increases as the light approaches their planet. When the light finally reaches the planet, its current inhabitants will begin to use the newly arriving light to conduct scientific study and exploration of the galaxy from which the light came – and beyond.

## **Feb-14 7:30pm Winter Sky Show.**

Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this winter.

### **8:30pm Magellan: Report from Venus.**

Venus appears as the brightest object in our sky, except for the Sun and the Moon. It has been seen as a “morning star” rising just ahead of the Sun due southeast over last few weeks. Of all the planets in our solar system Venus is most like Earth in size and mass, and what's why it is known as our “sister planet”. Furthermore it comes closer to Earth than any of the other planets. But until recently not much was known about its surface conditions because of Venus's dense and extensive clouds keep us from seeing the surface directly. Tonight's narrated slide program recaps the accomplishments of the Magellan mission to Venus and takes audience on a “grand” tour of our “sister planet”. The program follows Magellan's progress from its launch through the most significant discoveries which made this mission one of the most successful missions ever sent to explore the planet Venus.

## **Feb-28 7:30pm Winter Sky Show.**

Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this winter.

### **8:30pm The Voyager Encounters.**

Jupiter is the second brightest planet in our sky, after Venus. Recently it has been dominating our nighttime sky being located the constellation Gemini. Jupiter is the largest and most massive planet in our solar system and it is made primarily of gases such as hydrogen and helium. In the past it has been visited by several robotic spacecraft missions such as Pioneer, Voyager, and Galileo. Tonight's slide program, narrated by Patrick Stewart, will highlight Voyager flyby mission that visited not only Jupiter but also the other three outer planets of our solar system, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune while providing us with an incredible amount of data and pictures of those four big planets of our solar system and some of their large moons.

## **Mar-14 7:30pm Winter Sky Show.**

Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during late winter of this year.

### **8:30pm The Mystery of Dusty Extrasolar Planetary Systems.**

Tonight's speaker, JPL and CSUN's Dr. Farisa Morales, will describe how she and her colleagues use several ground-based and space-based telescopes and their special imaging techniques to search for possible disk activities and exoplanets orbiting around other host stars. They have a list of exoplanet-candidates on hand that they hope to confirm in the near future. Furthermore, some of the host stars with possible exoplanets seem to have two-ring disk architecture similar to asteroid belt-Kuiper belt geometry in our own solar system. In tonight's lecture Dr. Morales will describe the various telescopes and their imaging techniques used, collected data and results obtained so far.

**For show information:** call 818-677- 5601, or go to:

**[www.csun.edu/physics/department\\_guide/colloquia\\_and\\_planetarium/planetarium.html](http://www.csun.edu/physics/department_guide/colloquia_and_planetarium/planetarium.html), or [www.csun.edu](http://www.csun.edu) and search for Bianchi Planetarium in “CSUN A to Z”.**

**For ticket information:** call 818-677-2488, or go to **AS Ticket Office (in USU) between 10 am – 6 pm**

**Tickets:** general admission - \$6 for one show, \$10 for two shows

student admission - \$4 for one show, \$7 for two shows