



Memory of Renowned Scientist Dr. Chang-Lin Tien to be Honored in New *Dragon Skies: Astronomy of Imperial China* Exhibit

OAKLAND, CA (June 16, 2004) — The memory of Dr. Chang-Lin Tien, former Chancellor at the University of California, Berkeley, and the first Asian-American to head a leading research university in the United States, will be honored in Chabot Space & Science Center's major new exhibit ***Dragon Skies: Astronomy of Imperial China***.

Set to open July 10, 2004, *Dragon Skies* embodies the ideals and values – scientific achievement, education and cross cultural relations – that Dr. Tien became known for during his life as a distinguished scientist and public servant. Honoring the memory of Dr. Tien through the new Chabot exhibit underscores the significance of the *Dragon Skies* presentation relative to its scientific value, educational approach and cultural underpinning.

“Dr. Tien has made countless valuable contributions to our society, many of which align perfectly with the message of *Dragon Skies*,” said Alex Barnett, Executive Director of Chabot Space & Science Center. “We are so pleased and fortunate to have the opportunity to acknowledge Dr. Tien in this extraordinary way.”

Dragon Skies: Astronomy of Imperial China, a collaboration between Chabot, the National Science Foundation and the People's Republic of China, was developed to enlighten the general public about China's early contributions to the science of astronomy, largely unknown to the general public. This family-oriented exhibition incorporates exciting, hands-on activities as well as authentic artifacts on loan from the Nanjing Museum, many of which have never been seen in the United States, to tell the 4,500 year old story of ancient China's astronomical achievements. Achievements include some of the earliest records of solar and lunar eclipses, Halley's Comet and the supernova explosion in 1054 A.D., the remnant of which is the Crab Nebula.

A long-time supporter of Chabot Space & Science Center, Dr. Chang-Lin Tien led an outreach effort in 1999 within the local Asian community on behalf of the Center's Capital Campaign. Chabot's large format film theater was named the Tien MegaDome Theater in honor of Dr. Tien and his many contributions to science education.

Anchored in both American and Asian cultures, Dr. Tien was deeply committed to maintaining educational excellence and diversity for all groups, especially the underprivileged. In engagements that frequently spanned the globe, he vigorously pursued the goals of enhancing communications between East and West.

“Our family is very honored and touched by Chabot Space & Science Center’s recognition of Chang-Lin Tien’s work,” said Di-Hwa Tien, Dr. Tien’s widow. “Those who had the privilege of knowing Dr. Tien personally witnessed firsthand his commitment to science, education and to bridging the cultural divide between East and West.”

Chabot Space & Science Center is now accepting donations to the Dragon Skies Fund in honor of Dr. Chang-Lin Tien. All donors will be recognized publicly in the exhibition and the Tien family will be notified of all gifts received in Dr. Chang-Lin Tien’s honor.

Dragon Skies: Astronomy of Imperial China will be on display from July 10, 2004 through January 2, 2005 at Chabot Space & Science Center in Oakland, California. More detailed exhibit information, along with views of artifacts and replicas, can be seen at www.dragonskies.org.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Chabot Space & Science Center is located at 10000 Skyline Blvd. in Oakland’s Joaquin Miller Park. **Public hours:** Friday, 5 pm–10 pm; Saturday, 10 am–10 pm; Sunday, 12 noon–5 pm. **Summer hours (July 5 – Labor Day):** Tuesday – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 5p.m., Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m., Sunday, 12 – 5 p.m., closed Mondays. General admission, including free parking and a Planetarium show, is \$13.00 for adults, \$9.00 youth and seniors. Children under 3 are admitted free. *The Sky Tonight* and shows in the MegaDome Theater are \$6.00 adult, and \$5.00 youth and seniors. Telescopes are open for Free Public Viewing Fridays & Saturdays from dusk – 10 pm, weather permitting. Tickets may be purchased at the door, or by calling (510) 336-7373.

For more information, call (510) 336-7300, or visit www.chabotspace.org