



**Chabot Space & Science Center**  
*"Your Place in the Universe"*

**March–June 30, 2006**  
**(Issued March 15, 2006)**

This document and all Chabot Space & Science Center news releases and photos may be found online at [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org) under Press room.

**\*\* PUBLIC HOURS \*\***

Monday–Tuesday CLOSED  
Wednesday–Friday, 10 am – 5 pm;  
Friday & Saturday 10 am – 10 pm; Sunday 11 am – 5 pm  
Closed 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas

**Telescope Viewing**

Friday & Saturday, dusk – 10 pm (weather permitting)

**Special Extended Holiday Hours**

Spring Break (April 10 – 14)  
10 am – 5 pm

**\*\* ADMISSION \*\***

\$13 Adult / \$10 Student & Senior / \$9 Youth  
Movies: \$8 Adult / \$7 Youth, Student & Senior  
Evening planetarium shows: \$8 Adult / \$7 Youth, Student & Senior  
Telescope viewing only: Free

**CHABOT SPACE & SCIENCE CENTER** — Indoor stargazing in full-dome digital planetarium, outdoor viewing through telescopes, large format films in MegaDome Theater, interactive exhibits and hands-on activities. Open Wed. – Sun. Observatory hours Fri. & Sat., dusk - 10 pm. 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. (510) 336-7300. [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)

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10000 Skyline Boulevard  
Oakland, California 94619  
Phone: 510-336-7300  
[www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)

## **SPECIAL EVENTS FOR FAMILIES**

### **Science Fair Display**

Wednesday & Thursday, March 29 & 30, 10 am – 5 pm

Free with General Admission

Come see the ingenuity of Oakland's school children at the Oakland Unified School District's annual science fair.

### **Total Solar Eclipse**

Wednesday, March 29, 1:15 – 3:15 am

Tickets \$8 Adult/\$5 Youth; Advance tickets required. Available at Chabot Box Office, 510-336-7373

Stay up late or get up early and view a live web cast of the total solar eclipse, broadcast from Turkey. Hear a guest speaker talk about eclipses and provide commentary on the eclipse happening in Turkey while you watch on the big screen.

### **Sun and Earth Day**

Saturday, April 1, 12 Noon – 5 pm

Activities free with General Admission

Join us in a combined celebration of the annual Sun-Earth Day and Earth Day with fun and illuminating hands-on activities focused on the Sun, the Earth, and the special relationship between these two celestial bodies. Enjoy solar viewing, demonstrations of Sun and Earth sciences, make-and-take activities, and a special showing of the film *Solarmax*.

### **Astronomy/Space Day**

Saturday, May 6, 11am – 5pm

Activities Free with General Admission

Celebrate Astronomy Day and learn how telescopes work, determine the relative temperature of stars, and make a Solar System bracelet. Enter a drawing to win a Meade ETX-80AT telescope and a grand prize of a state-of-the-art Meade 10" LX200R SmartMount Telescope. Sponsored by Astronomy Magazine.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS FOR ADULTS**

### **Lunar Lounge Express Night**

Friday, March 24 & May 26; 8pm - midnight

Tickets: \$15 Regular / \$10 Student; Available at the Chabot Box Office, 510-336-7373

Party under the stars and enjoy an evening of food, beverages, live performances, music, movie shorts, a SonicVision planetarium show, telescope viewing, hands-on exhibits, giveaways and outta-this-world fun!

### **Yuri's Night**

Friday, April 14; 8pm – midnight

Tickets: \$20 Regular / \$15 Student; Available at the Chabot Box Office, 510-336-7373

Join with others around the world and celebrate the anniversary of the first human spaceflight when in 1961, Soviet Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin made his historic first flight into space. Party under the stars and enjoy an evening of food, beverages, live performances, music, movie shorts, a SonicVision planetarium show, telescope viewing, hands-on exhibits, giveaways and outta-this-world fun!

### **Teacher's and Educator's Open House**

Featuring keynote speaker, Astronaut Dr. Lawrence DeLucas

Thursday, May 4; 3 – 7 pm

FREE; Open to all teachers and educators; Pre-registration required online at [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)

Hear from astronaut Dr. Lawrence DeLucas and sample activities from Chabot's various educational programs, take home activities and useful classroom materials, listen to live music, view planetarium shows, and access other Bay Area education resources in this event sponsored by NASA and Chabot Space & Science Center.

## **CLASSES**

### **Space Explorers Summer Camps**

July 10 – August 18

Youth entering grades 1-8

To register, call 510-336-7311 or visit [www.chabotspace.org/visit/programs/summercamps.asp](http://www.chabotspace.org/visit/programs/summercamps.asp)

Send your children on an unforgettable summer adventure! Your junior scientist can have fun in the Sun, create chemical concoctions, learn all about stars, fly a simulated space mission, investigate crime scenes and more. All camps include a planetarium and theater show. Half-day camps run from 9am - Noon and 1 pm - 4 pm. Full-day camps run from 9am - 4 pm. Camps include Kitchen Science; Cosmic Camp; Spaceship Earth; Fun in the Sun ; Star Light, Star Bright; Robotics; CSI Camp; Mars Camp; Survival Camp; and Astronaut Training Camp. Fees vary depending on Chabot member status and registration date (ranging from \$185-215 for half-day and \$320-380 for full day). Extra fee of \$35 for after hours care, 4pm - 5 pm.

**Visit the Chabot Space & Science Center website at [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)**

## **WEEKEND HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES**

### **Earth and Environmental Science Programs**

Saturdays, March 25, April 22, May 13 & 27, June 10 & 24; 12 Noon – 4 pm

Free with General Admission

Come join in the fun as Chabot's Environmental Programs Team of staff, interns, and volunteers help you explore the mysteries and science of planet Earth. Every 2nd and 4th Saturday during the winter you'll have the opportunity to learn more about Earth's atmosphere, solar energy, worm composting, our surrounding redwood forest, and how NASA uses satellites to study the Earth from space. Build a solar car, take a hike, have fun with worms, or see a special a slide show on one of our special themes.

### **Explorers Hands-On Fun**

Saturdays, 10am – 6 pm

FREE with General Admission

These fun hands-on activities invite you to examine real spacesuits, become a mineral detective, learn about telescopes, minerals and skulls, take a walk in the nearby Redwood forest and more.

### **Daytime Telescope Viewing** (weather permitting)

Saturday & Sunday, 11am – 5 pm (subject to change)

FREE with General Admission

Don't wait until dark! View the sun, the moon, and the planets through the telescopes during the day.

### **Discovery Lab**

The Discovery Lab is a place especially for the younger crowd, ages 2–7

FREE with General Admission; drop-in lab

Saturdays, 11am – 4:30 pm; Sundays, Noon – 4:30 pm

A hands-on, open lab, an environment where you and your child can interact through play and inquiry take time out to experience and explore, stop and think and wonder, spend time together, listen to a story, try on a costume, have fun with friends and clean up when done!

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## **OPENING EXHIBITS**

### **Chabot Observatories Exhibit** — OPENS August 5, 2006

Since 1883, countless visitors have gazed through the Chabot telescopes at the wonders of the night sky. A new exhibit in the observatory domes explores the history of the Chabot Observatories and how its historic telescopes continue to be used today. Daytime visitors can virtually operate a telescope, experiment with mirrors and lenses to understand how telescopes create images of distant objects, and travel through more than a century of Chabot's history via multimedia kiosks, historical images, and artifact displays.

## **ONGOING EXHIBITS**

### **Designed for Space Travel**

Get a behind-the-scenes peek as Chabot's collection of space artifacts is restored. Find out how spacesuits and other equipment work to protect astronauts from the harsh environment of outer space. Learn about space food and the factors considered in packaging. Watch Chabot staff and volunteers prepare these artifacts for long term preservation in the Space Artifact Lab.

**Solar-Go-Round** — Take a tour of the Solar System, from the radiant Sun and the ringed planet Saturn, to giant Jupiter and far-away Pluto. Discover what makes the planets go round, then design a solar system and launch your planets into orbit. Find out how rocks from outer space can change a planet's surface and climate, then try making craters yourself. Hunt for signs of water on other planets, find out about the weather on Mars and Titan, and learn how telescopes and robotic spacecraft are helping us explore our planetary neighbors.

**Destination Universe** — Take a journey from our Sun to the farthest reaches of the cosmos! Along the way, you'll see where stars are born, how they die, meet nebulae of all kinds, and travel to distant galaxies. Experience the Origins Theater; crawl into a black hole; see what happens when galaxies collide; and view stunning space images!

**Mars Encounter** — The exhibit features a four-foot tactile Mars globe, complete with craters and volcanoes; a Martian meteorite; a Martian Sci-fi theater; a Mars Mission Control where visitors can obtain data on current and past missions; videos of Rover missions; a wall-size mural embedded with quiz games; a vacation to Mars planning station and a play area for the younger crowd. Sponsored by NASA, with additional support from Microsoft, Inc.

### **One Giant Leap: A Moon Odyssey**

For all astronaut wannabees— take a simulated Moon-walk, try on a space helmet, climb into a Mercury capsule, and land a lunar module in this new hands-on exhibit that explores the legends and science fiction about the Moon; the Space Race and the Moon landings; and the Earth-Moon system. Learn what the Moon is made of, how it affects the Earth, what causes Moon phases, gravity on the Moon, and more. You can even take a look at an ancient piece of the Moon up close! The exhibit includes space artifacts and replicas, from Sputnik and Mercury to Gemini and Apollo.

**A New Space Race: ANSARI X PRIZE** — Check out the latest rocket science and learn about the talented teams that competed for the ten million dollar prize in the international X Prize competition. Try “launching” a rocket yourself, place your vote on how much you would pay to travel into suborbital space, view short video clips from the competitors, and learn about engineering strategies used by each team.

**Astronomy In California 1850–1950: Telescope Makers, Telescopes, and Artifacts** — Explore California's rich astronomical history and Chabot Observatory's own 120-year history through a display of telescopes, artifacts, and the histories of their makers, on loan from the Smithsonian Institution.

**Skywise—Astronomy Cartoon Exhibit** — Have you ever tried to picture how far the Sun is from Earth? Or wondered what the skies would look like from another place on Earth -- or another place in our Solar System? This exhibit of astronomy comic strips provides an entertaining and informative vehicle for discovering and understanding astronomical phenomena. The exhibit is made possible in part through support from the Ask Jeeves Foundation and *Sky & Telescope Magazine*.

## PLANETARIUM SHOWS

### Continuing Daytime Shows:

**Molecularium: Riding Snowflakes** — through June 30, 2006. Meet a lively cast of atomic characters and learn about the basic structures of our universe in this magical, musical adventure to inner space. Jump aboard their marvelous spaceship and take an exciting journey with them into the world of clouds, raindrops, earth and space. Travel even further into the structure of a snowflake and see how atoms bond together to make all the materials in our universe. Ideal for families and their children. (*Running Time 20 minutes*)

**The Search for Life: Are We Alone?** — Narrated by Academy Award–nominated actor Harrison Ford, this engrossing immersive theater experience whisks you on an incredible journey in search of the answer to this most intriguing question. This exhilarating voyage from the depths of Earth’s oceans to the outer reaches of the cosmos features breathtaking visualizations—many seen for the first time—such as a brilliant panorama of deep space, a walk on Mars and a dramatic visualization of the formation of our own fragile planet. *The Search for Life: Are We Alone? was developed by the American Museum of Natural History in collaboration with the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA).* (40 min)

**Secret of the Cardboard Rocket** — Two young adventurers turn an old cardboard box into a rocket and with the help of a magical book and their vivid imaginations blast off on an awesome journey to the most amazing places in the Solar System. Gasp in amazement at the huge planet Jupiter, find out what Saturn’s rings are made of and discover the secret of the cardboard rocket. The show has been upgraded for digital full-dome systems and provides an excellent introduction to the nine planets of our Solar System. Especially for ages 5 – 10. (30 min)

**Sunshine**—This 15 minute-long program lets the younger set interact with our closest star, The Sun, as he takes them through a quick look at the work he does all day and the many friends he has—the other stars! (15 min)

### Evening Shows:

**The Sky Tonight**— Saturdays, 8 pm. Presented live and in the new digital format, the show is a current look at the stars, constellations, and planets from our perspective here in Oakland. The content of this show changes monthly. (40 min.)

**Immersive Space: Journey Through the Cosmos**— Friday, 8 pm. Experience the Digital Universe in our new full-dome system as it whisks you to the nearest star and beyond in merely seconds. Travel 1,000 light years to Orion; 2 million light years to the Andromeda galaxy, home to a super massive black hole; and 10 million light years to other galaxies in our Local Group. Journey further to the edge of the known universe and take a peek at what’s on the other side. (40 min)

**Sonic Vision**—Friday & Saturday, 7:15 & 9 pm. Sonic Vision is a trip out of this world and into the minds of the universe’s most creative musical artists and digital animators, set to a soundtrack featuring today’s coolest music. This mind-warping roller-coaster ride is mixed by Moby and features tracks from Radiohead, U2, David Bowie, Coldplay, Queens of the Stone Age, Prodigy, The Flaming Lips, Fischerspooner, Spiritualized, Audioslave, Stereolab, Boards of Canada, David Byrne and Brian Eno, Goldfrapp, Zwan, White Zombie, and Moby. The show uses next-generation digital technology to illuminate the Planetarium’s dome with a dazzling morphing of colorful visions in this one-of-a-kind computer-generated musical and visual experience. *SonicVision was developed by the American Museum of Natural History in collaboration with Moby and in association with MTV2. SonicVision is made possible by generous sponsorship and technology support from Sun Microsystems.* (38 min) *Portions of the show feature loud music and large fast moving images that may startle small children.*

For showtimes, visit the Chabot Space & Science Center website at [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)

## **TIEN MEGADOME THEATER**

### **CONTINUING SHOWS:**

**Forces of Nature** — Witness the awesome power and the unimaginable destruction of explosive volcanoes, ground-buckling earthquakes, and deadly tornadoes as you head into the field with scientists who risk their lives exploring the origins and behaviors of these fearsome natural disasters. Narrated by Kevin Bacon. *A National Geographic Film, produced by Graphic Films, made possible by Amica Insurance and funded in part by the National Science Foundation.* (40 min)

### **Cosmic Voyage**

A breathtaking journey through time and space! Zoom from the surface of the Earth to the largest observable structures of the Universe, and back down to the sub-nuclear realm—a guided tour across some 42 orders of magnitude! Explore some of the greatest scientific theories, many of which have never before been visualized on film. *Cosmic Voyage* was nominated for an Academy Award® in the Best Documentary Short Subject Category. (40 min)

### **The Human Body**

The incredible story of our inner universe and looks at the daily biological processes that go on without our control and often without our notice. Peek inside and follow a tomato on its journey to the biological blender of our stomach, accompany a red blood cell on its journey to the heart and see the cells inside of an ear dance to music. *A presentation by The Learning Channel (TLC) and BBC Worldwide of a Discovery Pictures/BBC co-production done in association with the Maryland Science Center and the Science Museum, London, with major funding provided by the National Science Foundation and distributed by nWave Pictures Distribution.* (43 min)

### **The Living Sea**

Take an action packed journey to the depths of the ocean. Swim with jellyfish and whales, surf thundering waves, and meet strange creatures living at the bottom of the sea. Featuring songs and music by Sting and narrated by Meryl Streep. *Produced by MacGillivray Freeman Films* (45 min)

### **SolarMax**

Featuring live images of the Sun and footage from around the world of solar observatories of the past, present, and future, *SolarMax* tells of humankind's struggle to understand the Sun. Travel around the world to visit historical sites of sun worship, see scientists studying the Sun, and view the majesty of a total solar eclipse. (40 min)

**For showtimes, visit the Chabot Space & Science Center website at [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)**

## **CHABOT SPACE & SCIENCE CENTER FACTS**

- Location:** 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland (in the Oakland Hills)
- Hours:** Closed Mondays & Tuesdays; Wednesday–Thursday, 10 am – 5 pm; Friday–Saturday, 10 am – 10 pm; Sunday, 12 Noon – 5 pm  
(Closed July 4<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving & Christmas; Open New Year’s Day and other major holidays)  
**Telescope Viewing:** dusk – 10 pm, weather permitting
- Admission:** **General admission** (includes a Planetarium show and free parking): \$13 Adult / \$10 Students and Seniors (65+); \$9 Youth (ages 4-12); Children 3 and under admitted free  
**MegaDome Theater Show only** — \$8 Adult / \$7 Youth, Student & Senior  
**Evening Planetarium Shows** — \$8 Adult / \$7 Youth, Student & Senior
- Tickets:** Tickets may be purchased at the door, or by calling (510) 336-7373.
- Celestial Cafe:** Snacks available. Indoor and outdoor seating.
- Disabled Access:** Chabot Space & Science Center is wheelchair accessible. A limited number of wheelchairs are available without charge on site. Designated parking is available near the main entrance.
- Parking:** Convenient free parking is available in the adjacent parking structure or in the Knoll Lot off Skyline Blvd. Spaces for disabled visitors are located near the main entrance (outside of parking structure).
- Directions:** **\*\* Please Note: Public transportation via AC Transit is no longer available\*\***  
**From downtown Oakland or San Francisco:** Go east on I 580 to Highway 24 (towards Walnut Creek). From 24, go south on Highway 13 (Warren Freeway) towards Hayward. Take the Joaquin Miller/ Lincoln Avenue exit. Turn left and proceed up the hill on Joaquin Miller to the crest, then turn left at the signal onto the two-lane portion of Skyline Blvd. Chabot Space & Science Center is 1.3 miles up Skyline on the right.  
**From eastern Berkeley, Orinda etc.:** Go south on Highway 13 (Warren Freeway) towards Hayward. Take the Joaquin Miller/ Lincoln Avenue exit. Turn left and proceed up the hill on Joaquin Miller to the crest, then turn left at the signal onto the two-lane portion of Skyline Blvd. Chabot Space & Science Center is 1.3 miles up Skyline on the right.  
**From Hayward, Castro Valley and points East:** Go west on I 580 and take the Highway 13 (Warren Freeway) turnoff. Take the Joaquin Miller/Lincoln Avenue exit. Turn right, and proceed up the hill on Joaquin Miller to the crest, then turn left at the signal onto the two-lane portion of Skyline Blvd. Chabot Space & Science Center is 1.3 miles up Skyline on the right.
- Info Phone:** (510) 336-7300
- Website:** [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)

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