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**NEWS MEDIA INVITED TO GEMINID METEOR SHOWER VIEWING**

**FRIDAY-SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13-14,** **11 PM – 3 AM**

**Chabot Space & Science Center offers viewing of Geminid Meteor Shower with astronomers available.**
**News Media are invited to cover the Geminid Meteor Shower viewing at Chabot Space & Science Center Friday, December 13, from 11 p.m. - 3 a.m. Saturday, December 14.**The public is invited to enjoy the Geminid Meteor Shower from the Chabot Observatory Deck with staff astronomers available to answer questions. Astronomer Gerald McKeegan will be giving talks on meteors at 12 a.m. and 1 a.m.

Starting at dusk, spectators should be able to spot 50-100 meteors per hour, with the show peaking around 2 a.m. Nearly 200 years old, the meteor shower’s source is the asteroid 3200 Phaetheon. The shower happens annually when Earth passes through the asteroid’s debris.

To see the shower, look into the southwestern sky, up and to the left of the Orion constellation. The Geminids emanate from the constellation Gemini. Meteor Showers can be seen without a telescope. It’s best to see a shower in a dark-sky area. Blankets and warm clothing are highly recommended.

Tickets are $8 or free for Chabot Space and Science Center members.

**RSVP YOUR COVERAGE TO MARY CATHERINE FRANTZ AT 510-336-7338 OR** **mfrantz@chabotspace.org****.**

**About Chabot Space and Science Center**

Founded as an observatory in 1883, today Chabot offers visitors the very latest in hands-on, interactive exhibits, displays, and Planetarium shows. Combined with a full program of activity-filled classes, workshops, outreach programs, and special events, Chabot Space & Science Center is the Bay Area's go-to destination for visitors of all ages who want to discover and learn about science.

Set amid beautiful redwood parkland in the hills above Oakland, just 2.5 miles off the freeway, Chabot is also home to three magnificent telescopes including the largest on the west coast open weekly to the public. Here visitors of all ages can experience for themselves the wonders of the cosmos as they gaze through the telescopes at distant stars and planets.

Chabot Space & Science Center is open Wed.-Sun. 10 am-5 pm with First Fridays the first Friday of every month 5-9 pm. Admission is Adults: $18 • children 3-12 $14 (under 3 free) • Students/Seniors $15 • Memberships available

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