



# MAPS Conference 2024

“Launching into the Next 100 Years”

June 20-23, 2024 --- Mystic, CT



## Welcome to the 2024 MAPS Conference!

With tremendous gratitude to the Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society, the staff of the Treworgy Planetarium at Mystic Seaport Museum is honored to welcome MAPS members to our 2024 Conference in beautiful Mystic, CT!

Six years ago, we had the pleasure of hosting the 2018 MAPS Conference, and we are honored to have been given this opportunity once again. Whether this is your first planetarium conference or your 51st, we hope you enjoy the next four days that will be full of delegate talks, sponsor demos, workshops, and meetings for various MAPS Committees and Groups.

Details about all conference events can be found across the pages that follow. We encourage you to bookmark a link to this PDF on your devices, so you can reference it as needed over the course of the conference. Welcome to Mystic, and have fun!

[QUICK-REFERENCE  
CONFERENCE  
SCHEDULE](#)

[ARRIVAL INFO](#)

[DETAILS FOR  
THURSDAY, JUNE 20](#)

[DETAILS FOR  
FRIDAY, JUNE 21](#)

[DETAILS FOR  
SATURDAY, JUNE 22](#)

[DETAILS FOR  
SUNDAY, JUNE 23](#)

# Launching Into the Next 100 Years: Our 2024 Conference Theme

by Brian Koehler, 2024 MAPS Conference Host

*“A ship in the harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for.”*

--- John A. Shedd

In the maritime world, the word “LAUNCH” conjures up a special image in the mind. It is the culmination of a tremendous amount of time and preparation – shaping the hull, forming the planks, rigging up sails and fastening lines into place.

And yet there is still so much more work to be done. The launching of a ship is not the end of the ship’s story, but rather the turning of a page, the transition to a new chapter, the end of a time spent on land, and the beginning of a voyage out into the unknown.

All of the effort that was exhausted on land, that time was spent with the hopes that the vessel will sail, that it will steer, that it will EXPLORE...



**Launching Into the Next 100 Years: Our 2024 Conference Theme***(continued from previous page)*

In the realm of space exploration, the word “LAUNCH” has a similarly-compelling definition. Again, it is the end-result of so much work – engineering design, fabrication, and precise calculations, among other tasks. Watching a rocket soar into the sky is just as captivating – if not even more captivating – than watching a vessel splash

into the water for the first time.

But once again, the work does not end there. A rocket launch is the end of a spacecraft’s time on our planet, but it is also the beginning of a new era, a new mission, one that seeks knowledge and discovery.



As humans, it is in our DNA to be curious, to imagine, and to wonder. Thousands of years ago, we stood along the shore and saw eternity in two directions – out over the horizon, and up into the heavens. And whichever brave soul first saw fit to construct a means to sail over that horizon, their spirit of adventure was

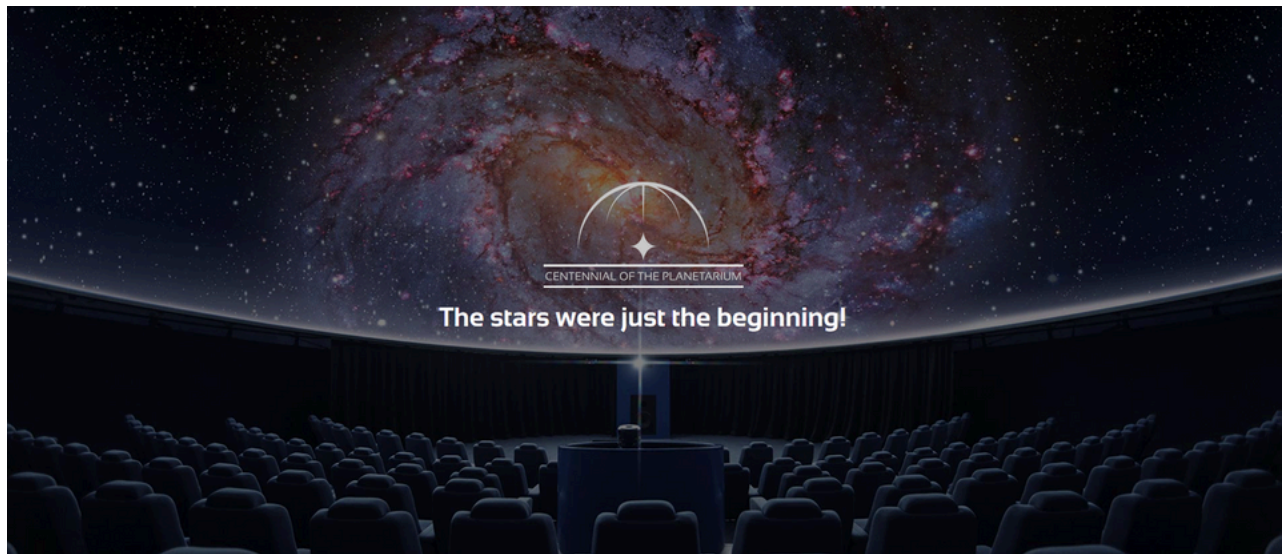
surely passed all the way along to the first explorers to soar into outer space. So very much has changed over the years, but as long as the spirit endures, humans will always imagine, we will always wonder, and when the time is right, we will LAUNCH...

## Launching Into the Next 100 Years: Our 2024 Conference Theme

*(continued from previous page)*

There must always be a leap-of-faith involved in a launch. Perhaps you are scanning that boat in the water for the first time, checking for leaks and making sure that it stands upright. Or maybe you are on the edge of your seat, watching the rocket climb higher and higher, anticipating that

exact moment of second-stage separation. At some point, we all reach that moment when we must trust the steps that helped us to arrive at a particular moment, take a deep breath, and then take that crucial next step forward...



And so we come to 2024, and the 100th anniversary of the opening of the first planetarium in the world. A significant amount of time this year will be spent reflecting on everything that planetariums around the world have accomplished over the last century, and rightfully so! We have all played a part in the story of the first 100 years of these amazing institutions, and we have all earned the right to celebrate.

While we take that time to celebrate and reflect, the Middle Atlantic Planetarium

Society is challenging its 2024 conference attendees to imagine what the next 100 years will bring. How will we continue to engage the public? What new discoveries will we make, and how can we explain them to audiences of all ages? How will these domes enable us to learn, to teach, and to inspire?

When we ponder these questions, we are standing along the shore, or gazing out at the rocket on its platform. As we answer these questions – TOGETHER – we are officially “**Launching into the Next 100 Years!**”

## MAPS Executive Committee

### OFFICERS:

**President - Noreen Grice**  
 You Can Do Astronomy  
 New Britain, CT

**President-Elect - Tony Kilgore**  
 Irene V. Hylton Planetarium  
 Woodbridge, VA

**Past President - Brian Koehler**  
 Treworgy Planetarium  
 Mystic, CT

**Treasurer - Mike Francis**  
 Stars Science Theater  
 Auburndale, MA

**Secretary - Amie Gallagher**  
 RVCC Planetarium  
 Branchburg, NJ

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

**Stephen Dubois**  
 Ferguson Planetarium  
 Buffalo, NY  
 Williamsville Space Lab Planetarium  
 Williamsville, NY

**Paul J. Krupinski**  
 Mr. K's Mobile Dome Planetarium  
 RMSC's Strassenburgh Planetarium  
 Cheektowaga, NY

**Patty Seaton**  
 Howard B. Owens Science Center  
 Lanham, MD

## MAPS Program Committee

### COMMITTEE CHAIR:

**Tony Kilgore**

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

**Mike Francis**  
**Lee Ann Hennig**  
**Brian Koehler**  
**Shawn Laatsch**  
**Patty Seaton**  
**April Whitt**

*Among the members of the Program Committee are the MAPS Treasurer, the Chair of the MAPS Education Committee, and the current and prior conference hosts.*

## MAPS Conference Host Team (2024)

**Brian Koehler**  
 Treworgy Planetarium Supervisor

**Jordan Ecker**  
**Jon-Paul Chaffiotte**  
**Bruce Levine**  
**Megan O'Brien**  
 Planetarium Presenters

**Bill Michael**  
**Carl Heinrich**  
 Planetarium Volunteers

**MAPS Conference 2024 - Quick-Reference Schedule**

**Thursday, June 20**

11:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Vendor Hall setup time	Vendor Hall
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Arrival and Conference Registration	Thompson Building
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Welcome Reception	Spouter's Tavern
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	MSM "Entwined" exhibit open (during reception)	Stillman Building
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Vendor Hall preview visit (during reception)	Vendor Hall
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM	New Member Welcome @ Planetarium	Planetarium

**Friday, June 21**

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	Arrival and Conference Registration	Thompson Building
8:45 AM - 9:00 AM	Welcome Remarks and Day 1 overview	Planetarium
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Paper Sessions (Krupinski, Ullery, Koehler, Unverzagt)	Planetarium
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break @ Vendor Hall	Vendor Hall
10:30 AM - 11:20 AM	Sponsor Presentations (Cosm, Goto)	Planetarium
11:20 AM - 12:05 PM	Workshops (Chaffiotte, Ecker, Gallagher)	Classrooms
12:05 PM - 1:15 PM	Lunch Break	Membership Patio
1:15 PM - 2:00 PM	MAPS User Group meetings	Classrooms
2:00 PM - 3:05 PM	Sponsor Presentations (Ash, Konica Minolta, Seiler, SSIA)	Planetarium
3:05 PM - 3:30 PM	Afternoon Break @ Vendor Hall	Vendor Hall
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM	MAPS Committee meetings	Classrooms
4:15 PM - 5:15 PM	Panels and Forums (Gallagher/Seaton/Koehler, Grice)	Planetarium
5:15 PM - 5:30 PM	Wrap-up Day 1	Planetarium

**Saturday, June 22**

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Arrival and Conference Registration	Thompson Building
8:30 AM - 8:45 AM	Welcome Remarks and Day 2 overview	Stillman Building
8:45 AM - 9:45 AM	Paper Sessions (Breen, Collins, Grice, Seaton)	Stillman Building
9:45 AM - 10:15 AM	Coffee Break @ Vendor Hall	Vendor Hall
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	Sponsor Presentations (ChromaCove, Quebec, Worlds)	Planetarium
11:15 AM - 12:00 PM	Workshops (Eder, Gallagher)	Classrooms
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch Break	Membership Patio
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	MAPS Annual Business Meeting	Stillman Building
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Paper Sessions (Collins, Kopchynski, Schindler, Towne)	Stillman Building
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Break off-site (to prepare for Banquet)	OFF-SITE
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	MAPS 2024 Banquet	Greenman's Landing
7:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Awards (during Banquet)	Greenman's Landing
7:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Margaret Noble Address (during Banquet)	Greenman's Landing

**Sunday, June 23**

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Arrival and Conference Registration	Thompson Building
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Paper Sessions (Beckerman, Bennett, Brooks, Seaton)	Stillman Building
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break @ Vendor Hall	Vendor Hall
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	Workshops (Chaffiotte, Ecker, Eder)	Classrooms
11:15 AM - 11:45 AM	Door Prizes and Closing Remarks	Planetarium
11:45 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch and Farewell	Membership Patio

# MAPS Conference - Arrival Information

## FOR EVERYONE:

The Mystic Seaport Museum has two main parking lots and two main entrances. We will use the North parking lot and the North entrance for our conference, and the best GPS address for that location is 112 Greenmanville Avenue in Mystic, CT 06355. That address is a large brick building that houses the Museum's collection of artifacts...



Driving south from I-95, you would want to completely pass this building, which ends at a traffic light. From this traffic light, the building you can see on the right is our Thompson Building – the North Entrance to the Museum. From this same traffic light, you can take a left turn into our NORTH parking lot. Once parked, you can cross the street at the light to get to the Thompson Building...



The Conference Registration table (for each day of the conference) will be in the Lobby of the Thompson Building. The Vendor Hall is also located inside of this building.

# MAPS Conference - Arrival Information

## FOR SPONSORS:

We would like to extend a special thanks to the ten (10) organizations that are sponsoring our conference this year. We are pleased to share some “Sponsor Spotlights” throughout this program with logos and other information about our generous conference sponsors.

Sponsors are invited to arrive at the Mystic Seaport Museum during the day on Thursday, June 20. The Vendor Hall will be open for setup between the hours of 11:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

Any items that were shipped to the Museum in advance of the conference will be delivered directly to the Vendor Hall on the morning of Thursday, June 20.

If desired, we can also designate time in our Planetarium Theater for sponsors to test or practice their presentations prior to the conference being underway.

Sponsors are asked, upon arrival, to please call or text 516-359-7278 (this is Brian’s cell phone) from the parking lot. We will arrange for a MSM Planetarium team member to meet you at the North Entrance to the Museum and help you access the Vendor Hall and/or the dome.

## FOR DELEGATES:

Our conference registration will officially begin at 4:00 PM on Thursday, June 20. However, we recognize that some attendees may arrive in Mystic earlier in the day.

Any delegate presenters who wish to test or practice their talks in the planetarium theater or classroom spaces, we can make arrangements for this during the day on Thursday.

If arriving during the day prior to the conference registration (5:00-6:00 PM), please call or text 516-359-7278 (this is Brian’s cell phone) from the parking lot. We will arrange for a MSM Planetarium team member to meet you at the North Entrance to the Museum.



# MAPS Conference - Arrival Information

## **FOR EVERYONE:**

We ask that all MAPS Conference attendees visit the Conference Registration table in the Lobby of the Thompson Building to officially check-in. This table will be staffed in the late afternoon on Thursday, as well as first thing in the morning on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

When checking in at the Registration table, we will invite all attendees to:

- Pick up your name tag and select any ribbons to adorn your name tag (Sponsor, Presenter, Officer, New Member, etc).
- Sign up for any workshops you would like to attend - some workshops have limited capacities but all workshops are being offered twice over the course of the conference.
- Select a MAPS User Group with which you might like to meet on Friday.
- Scan a QR code to download a copy of this Conference Program.
- Scan another QR code to view the minutes from the 2023 MAPS Business Meeting. We will conduct a vote to adopt these minutes at our 2024 MAPS Business Meeting which will happen on Saturday afternoon.

## **A NOTE ABOUT CONFERENCE BAGS:**

We are trying something new this year with regard to conference bags. Let's be honest... many of us have sooooo many of them from past conferences! To provide a "greener" approach to our conference this year, we are asking attendees to please bring a bag from a prior conference that you can reuse for this year's gathering. It can be any bag of your choosing, and the Registration Table will have some fabric markers if you would like to refresh your bag for 2024. Now, we do have quite a few first-time conference attendees this year! So, if I can ask a huge favor of our MAPS conference veterans... please bring TWO bags if you are able - one for you, and one to share with a first-timer! These bags from various years and sites could also make for fun conversation pieces during breaks and meal times!

## Sponsor Spotlight: COSM

We would like to thank COSM for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at our highest sponsorship level!

COSM representatives Mike McConville, Brad Rush, and Jenn Davis will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

COSM will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Friday, June 21 within the 10:30-11:20 window.



**E&S**

**SPITZ**

**cosm  
IMMERSIVE**

COSM will be officially sponsoring our conference’s Welcome Reception on the evening of Thursday, June 20. This event will feature passed trays of hors d’oeuvres and an open bar. Many thanks to COSM for sponsoring this conference kick-off event!

## Sponsor Spotlight: QUEBEC GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN NEW YORK

We would like to thank the Quebec Government Office in New York for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at our highest sponsorship level!

Quebec Government Office in New York representatives Taylor Gaines and Jean-Pierre Dion will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

The Quebec Government Office in New York will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Saturday, June 22 within the 10:15-11:15 window.



The Quebec Government Office in New York will be officially sponsoring our 2024 MAPS Banquet on the evening of Saturday, June 22. This dinner event will feature a presentation of MAPS Awards, and the delivery of the 2024 Margaret Noble Address. “Merci beaucoup!” to the Quebec Government Office in New York for sponsoring this conference event!

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Thursday, June 20

*Detailed information about the FIRST day of our 2024 Conference*

## **11:00 AM - 4:00 PM: Vendor Hall setup time @ Vendor Hall**

Sponsors are invited to arrive during the day on Thursday to prepare their booths in the Conference Vendor Hall.

## **5:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Conference Registration @ Thompson Building**

Delegates are invited to arrive during this window to check-in, to pick up name badges, to sign up for workshops, and to get oriented on the grounds of the Mystic Seaport Museum.

## **6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Welcome Reception @ Spouter's Tavern**

*Sponsored by COSM*

All conference attendees are invited to this kick-off event, which will feature appetizers and an open bar. Welcome remarks from the MAPS President and the Conference Host Staff will occur during this event.

## **6:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Special access to "Entwined" exhibit @ Stillman Building**

During the first hour of our welcome event, attendees are invited to explore one of our newest exhibits at the Museum, a powerful presentation titled, "Entwined: Freedom, Sovereignty, and the Sea." This exhibit building is right next to where the Welcome Reception will be happening, so attendees can easily move between the two spaces.

## **7:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Vendor Visits @ Vendor Hall**

During the second hour of our welcome event, attendees are invited to make their initial visits to our Vendor Hall to greet our conference sponsors.

## **8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: New Member Welcome @ Planetarium**

Our final event of the opening night is a gathering in the Treworgy Planetarium, where new members will be welcomed and can learn about what the next few conference days will entail. This event is NOT just for our first-time conference attendees - MAPS Conference veterans are also invited to join and to make our newest members feel welcomed and included in our organization!

## **Sponsor Spotlight: RSA COSMOS / KONICA MINOLTA - SOLOTECH**

We would like to thank RSA Cosmos / Konica Minolta - Solotech for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at the “Octans” level!

RSA Cosmos / Konica Minolta representative Steve Hatfield and Solotech representative Stuart Rote will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

RSA Cosmos / Konica Minolta - Solotech will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Friday, June 21 within the 2:00-3:05 window.

# **RSACOSMOS**



**KONICA MINOLTA**

RSA Cosmos / Konica Minolta - Solotech will be officially sponsoring our Conference Lunch on Friday, June 21.

## Sponsor Spotlight: GOTO

We would like to thank GOTO for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at the “Octans” level!

GOTO representative Mark Webb will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

GOTO will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Friday, June 21 within the 10:30-11:20 window.



GOTO will be officially sponsoring our Conference Lunch on Saturday, June 22.

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Friday, June 21

*Detailed information about the SECOND day of our 2024 Conference*

## **8:00 AM - 8:45 AM: Conference Registration @ Thompson Building**

Any attendees who were not able to check-in on Thursday evening can do so during this morning window. All attendees are asked to enter through this entrance to proceed to the Planetarium for our first events of the day.

## **8:45 AM - 9:00 AM: Welcome Remarks and Day 2 overview @ Planetarium**

We have a lot going on during our first full day! We will start the day by summarizing what is in-store for everyone.

## **9:00 AM - 10:00 AM: Paper Sessions @ Planetarium**

### **“Perfection: My Story of the Great North American Solar Eclipse” - Paul Krupinski**

*Dallas? Buffalo? Rochester? Maine? Join me as I share my adventure to be under the shadow of the Moon for the Great American Eclipse of Monday, April 8, 2024. Eclipses can be predicted 500 years into the future within nanoseconds of accuracy, yet the weather can be so unpredictable, especially in April, that I needed to alter my plans at the very last minute. Find out what happened to me, as I scrambled to see my second total solar eclipse.*

### **“Show Constellations with a Hand-Held Projector” - Todd Ullery**

*Illustrating constellations with an optical mechanical projector has its challenges using just a pointer. I found I can use a handheld projector to show Stellarium illustrations on the dome.*

### **“A Journey in Astronomy: From Casual Observer to Planetarium Superfan” - John Unverzagt**

*How does one go from being a member of the audience to attending conferences and giving presentations? This will be a discussion on one such journey. It will also serve as a reminder that those we teach today, will be the ones filling our shoes as educators and astronomers tomorrow.*

### **“JJ Finds the Moon” - Brian Koehler**

*How early on in life can a young person start to develop an interest in space? The answer might surprise you - it certainly surprised this relatively-new Dad!*

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Friday, June 21

*Detailed information about the SECOND day of our 2024 Conference*

**10:00 AM - 10:30 AM: Coffee Break @ Vendor Hall**

*Sponsored by Worlds*

**10:30 AM - 11:20 AM: Sponsor Presentations @ Planetarium**



E&S

SPITZ

Cosm  
IMMERSIVE



**11:20 AM - 12:05 PM: Workshops @ Classrooms**

NOTE: Some workshops have limited capacities, Please sign up for workshops at the Conference Registration table in the Lobby of the Thompson Building.

## **“Spectroscopy” - J.P. Chaffiotte**

*This workshop was developed by the Treworgy Planetarium as part of a NASA Community Anchor Grant. Designed specifically for middle school students, this hands-on STEM activity challenges students to use tools to try to detect the “chemical signatures” of different elements.*

**NOTE: This workshop will also be offered on Sunday, June 23 from 10:30-11:15 AM.**

## **“Exploring Visible Light” - Jordan Ecker**

*Light is integral to our understanding of the universe, but can be tricky to understand. This hands on, Next Gen Science standard aligned workshop will use arts and crafts to introduce the topic of visible light. The Exploring Visible Light workshop pairs well with the Spectroscopy workshop.*

**NOTE: This workshop will also be offered on Sunday, June 23 from 10:30-11:15 AM.**

## **“Moon Phases & Tracking the Moons of Jupiter” - Amie Gallagher**

*This workshop will be presented in two parts. We'll start with our Moon, observing the changes we see in the sky and exploring why they happen. Next, we'll recreate Galileo's observations of Jupiter and those star-like objects that kept changing places. This workshop will take place in a classroom, but could be presented in a dome as well. It's a refresher on Moon phases and perhaps a new activity for you about Jupiter's moons.*

**NOTE: This workshop will also be offered on Saturday, June 22 from 11:15-12:00.**



# 2024 MAPS Conference: Friday, June 21

*Detailed information about the SECOND day of our 2024 Conference*

## 12:05 PM - 1:15 PM: Lunch Break @ Membership Patio

*Sponsored by RSA Cosmos / Konica Minolta - Solotech*

## 1:15 PM - 2:00 PM: MAPS User Group Meetings @ Classrooms

This post-lunch window will allow for continued conversations among MAPS members with shared interests. To help us gather everyone into the best spaces for these meetings, we are asking attendees to select a User Group upon check-in at the Conference Registration table. The current MAPS User Groups are:

- Colleges and Universities
- K-12 Schools
- Mobile Domes
- Museum and Science Center
- Planetarium / Astronomy Education Consultants
- Telescope / Observatory Users
- Unaffiliated Group

## 2:00 PM - 3:05 PM: Sponsor Presentations @ Planetarium



RSACOSMOS



SEILER  
PLANETARIUM



Exclusive Partner



## 3:05 PM - 3:30 PM: Afternoon Break @ Vendor Hall

*Sponsored by Seiler Instrument*

## 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM: MAPS Committee Meetings @ Classrooms

This late afternoon window will allow for gathering of MAPS Committee Chairs and Members, and will also allow for new MAPS members to learn about some of our Committees. MAPS Committees whose Chairs will be present at this year's conference include:

- Education Committee
- Membership Committee
- Memorial Committee
- Program Committee
- Publications Committee
- Website Committee

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Friday, June 21

*Detailed information about the SECOND day of our 2024 Conference*

**4:15 PM - 5:15 PM: Panels and Forums @ Planetarium**

**“Preschoolers in the Planetarium” - Amie Gallagher, Brian Koehler, Patty Seaton**

*How can planetariums offer engaging programming for preschool children and their families, an audience often overlooked and feared by even the most experienced planetariums? We will share some practices that have worked for us. What works well in your dome?*

**“An open forum discussion on inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility (IDEA), in collaboration with the Pacific Planetarium Association(PPA)” - Noreen Grice**

*Many organizations, including PPA and IPS, have created specific committees to address and promote initiatives for IDEA. Should MAPS have an ad hoc IDEA Committee? What would our IDEA goals be for MAPS and what assistance does MAPS need in terms of reaching these goals? How might we collaborate with other planetarium organizations in such initiatives?*

**5:15 PM - 5:30 PM: Wrap-up Day 2 @ Planetarium**

**5:30 PM - 7:30 PM: Dinner @ OFF-SITE**

For this evening, we will not have a formal conference-wide dinner. Rather, we will provide attendees with the opportunity to explore some of the fantastic dining options in the Mystic area, and will allow attendees to gather in groups as small or as large as they would like.

We encourage smartphone users to download the “Go Mystic” app (available for Android phones as well as iPhones) to access a wealth of dining, shopping, and other Mystic tourist information.



Available for FREE download on:



## Sponsor Spotlight: SSIA TECHNOLOGIES

We would like to thank SSIA Technologies for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at the “Octans” level!

SSIA Technologies representatives George Barnett, Annette Sotheran-Barnett, and Beth Moger will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

SSIA Technologies will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Friday, June 21 within the 2:00-3:05 window.



SSIA Technologies will be officially sponsoring our Conference Lunch on Sunday, June 23.

## Sponsor Spotlight: WORLDS

We would like to thank Worlds for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at the “Octans” level!

Worlds representatives Michael Daut and Kate McCallum will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

Worlds will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Saturday, June 22 within the 10:15-11:15 window.



Worlds will be officially sponsoring several Conference Breaks from June 21-23.

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Saturday, June 22

*Detailed information about the THIRD day of our 2024 Conference*

## **8:00 AM - 8:30 AM: Conference Registration @ Thompson Building**

Any attendees who were not able to check-in on Thursday evening or Friday morning can do so during this window. All attendees are asked to enter through this entrance to proceed to the Stillman Building for our first events of the day.

## **8:30 AM - 8:45 AM: Welcome Remarks and Day 3 overview @ Stillman Building**

This is the longest, most full day of the entire conference! We will provide an overview of everything that is included in this 13-hour marathon.

## **8:45 AM - 9:45 AM: Paper Sessions @ Stillman Building**

### **“New Eyes on Ancient Skies” - Mark Breen**

*Breen will discuss the newly published work Phaenomena, a didactic (science) poem by Aratus, that was the primary astronomy resource through the Middle Ages. This rare, hand-pressed book remains as current now as when it was written about 350 BCE, designed for the common person to read and understand the heavens through the year.*

### **“Door to Door Science: Walk the Centerline” - Tim Collins**

*What is one way to bring the news of the eclipse to the masses? Go door to door. In an effort to get the word out, not only were large gatherings a method of information sharing, but the ancient art of door-to-door visits along the eclipse's centerline resulted in a wide range of attention through local media.*

### **“Just Imagine: Planetarium Access and Engagement in the Next Hundred Years” - Noreen Grice**

*As we mark the Centennial of the Planetarium, we embark on our journey into the next century. What might a visit to the planetarium look like in the years to come? I'll dare to speculate on how innovation could open up new opportunities, making planetarium experiences even more accessible and engaging for all!*

### **“Putting “Planet” back into “Planetarium”” - Patty Seaton**

*As a school system planetarium, my primary task is to create programs that support the district curriculum. As a school district in Maryland, we were among the first in the U.S. to adopt the Next Generation Science Standards. Those of you familiar with the NGSS recognize that the standards are not heavy in content, but heavy in practices and cross-cutting concepts. Therefore, astronomy standards are few and far between, and planets are practically non-existent. However, what student DOESN'T love the planets? This paper explores ways that I have brought “planets” back into the planetarium.*

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Saturday, June 22

*Detailed information about the THIRD day of our 2024 Conference*

**9:45 AM - 10:15 AM: Coffee Break @ Vendor Hall**

*Sponsored by Worlds*

**10:15 AM - 11:15 AM: Sponsor Presentations @ Planetarium**



**11:15 AM - 12:00 PM: Workshops @ Classrooms**

NOTE: Some workshops have limited capacities, Please sign up for workshops at the Conference Registration table in the Lobby of the Thompson Building.

**“Putting the Power in PowerPoint” - Charles Eder**

*Learn how to effectively use PowerPoint to create visually stunning, flat screen astronomy presentations. Using PowerPoint's animation and slide transition features, any presentation can be as dynamic as a fulldome planetarium show. Participants are encouraged to bring a laptop with Microsoft PowerPoint installed to follow along and design their own animation.*

**NOTE: This workshop will also be offered on Sunday, June 23 from 10:30-11:15 AM.**

**“Moon Phases & Tracking the Moons of Jupiter” - Amie Gallagher**

*This workshop will be presented in two parts. We'll start with our Moon, observing the changes we see in the sky and exploring why they happen. Next, we'll recreate Galileo's observations of Jupiter and those star-like objects that kept changing places. This workshop will take place in a classroom, but could be presented in a dome as well. It's a refresher on Moon phases and perhaps a new activity for you about Jupiter's moons.*

**NOTE: This workshop will also be offered on Friday, June 21 from 11:20-12:05.**

**12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch Break @ Membership Patio**

*Sponsored by Goto*

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Saturday, June 22

*Detailed information about the THIRD day of our 2024 Conference*

## **1:00 PM - 3:00 PM: MAPS Annual Business Meeting @ Stillman Building**

Our Annual Business Meeting is open to all active MAPS members. Join us for updates and reports including:

- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Secretary's Report
- MAPS Committee Updates
- Information about the 2025 MAPS-SEPA Conference
- New Business
- For the Good of the Order

## **3:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Paper Talks @ Stillman Building**

### **"Chasing the Lunar Shadow: Planning a Community for a Total Solar Eclipse" - Tim Collins**

*As one of the key members of the planning committee for Buffalo, NY during the April, 2024 total solar eclipse, many public events, media visits, and coordination with several government officials was key. For upcoming eclipses from 2026-2028, some of this information may be valuable to other communities around the world in their planning efforts. Ours began in 2016.*

### **"The Past and Future of the Oldest Operating All-American Planetarium" - Kevin Kopchynski**

*When the planetarium projector was introduced in the 1920s, Springfield Mass was a little city without the budget to buy one of these machines.*

*Frank Korkosz, an enterprising technician at the Springfield Science Museum, and his brother John designed and built a star projector. Springfield became the 6th planetarium to open in the country, and the second American-made machine. 86 years later, it has long outlived the first American projector and now, with addition of a Zeiss full-dome system, it is poised for another century.*

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Saturday, June 22

*Detailed information about the THIRD day of our 2024 Conference*

## **“A Planetarium by Any Other Name” - JT Towne**

*Why would a dome facility select a name other than "planetarium"? Let's take a look at a handful of US sites, including teaching domes, to discuss current branding trends.*

## **“Future Exhibits at RVCC” - Kevin Schindler**

*How do you update 30 years of exhibits? We are in the process of updating our exhibit area, and have some ideas. Will they resonate with our audiences? Or are we really doing them for us? And can we make them last 30 more years?*

## **4:00 PM - 6:00 PM: Break to prepare for Banquet @ OFF-SITE**

We will give folks time to return to hotels to prepare for the MAPS Banquet.

## **6:00 PM - 9:00 PM: 2024 MAPS Banquet @ Greenman's Landing**

*Sponsored by the Quebec Government Office in New York*

Back at the Mystic Seaport Museum, we will gather at our newly-renovated on-campus restaurant for our annual MAPS tradition of a Banquet Dinner.

## **7:00 PM - 7:30 PM: MAPS Awards Presentation (during Banquet)**

During the Banquet, we will honor some MAPS members with special recognitions that have been earned over the course of the previous year.

## **7:30 PM - 8:00 PM: Margaret Noble Address by Lee Ann Hennig**

During the Banquet, we will invite Lee Ann Hennig, Chair of the MAPS Education Committee and long-time, recently-retired member of the MAPS Executive Committee, to deliver the 2024 Margaret Noble Address.



## Sponsor Spotlight: SEILER INSTRUMENT

We would like to thank Seiler Instrument for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at the “Horologium” level!

Seiler Instrument representatives Howard George and Ken Yager will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

Seiler Instrument will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Friday, June 21 within the 2:00-3:05 window.

**SEILER**  
**PLANETARIUM**



Exclusive Partner

Seiler Instrument will be officially sponsoring our afternoon Conference Break on Friday, June 21.

## Sponsor Spotlight: CHROMACOVE

We would like to thank ChromaCove for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at the “Pyxis” level!

ChromaCove representative Charlie Rau will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

ChromaCove will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Saturday, June 22 within the 10:15-11:15 window.



# 2024 MAPS Conference: Sunday, June 23

*Detailed information about the FINAL day of our 2024 Conference*

## **8:30 AM - 9:00 AM: Conference Registration @ Thompson Building**

Any attendees who are only joining us for the Sunday portion of the conference can check-in during this time. All attendees are asked to enter through this entrance to proceed to the Stillman Building for our first events of the day.

## **9:00 AM - 10:00 AM: Paper Sessions @ Stillman Building**

### **“The Ingenious Mr. Spitz” - Jim Beckerman**

*Armand Spitz was an egotist, showman, great teacher, bore, upstart, philosopher, gadget-fiend, a self-invented inventor, with no college degree, whose low-cost planetariums revolutionized the field. I'm a freelance writer and journalist working on a biography of this fascinating man. Here, I will briefly re-introduce him to anyone unfamiliar with his career. More importantly, for me, I will solicit information. I want to hear from anybody who knew Spitz, knows someone who knew him, or has a good Spitz-related story to tell.*

### **“Space Science Badges for Girl Scouts” - Erin Bennett**

*Each of the Girl Scout Space Science badges have clear requirements and are designed to be facilitated by scout leaders with no particular expertise in astronomy -- allowing knowledgeable planetarium educators to take these programs to the next level! This presentation contains a brief overview of the six available badges and a detailed explanation on how we run our successful Space Science Adventurer Badge program.*

### **“The History and Renovation of the Cynthia Peterson Memorial Planetarium” - Madisyn Brooks**

*The University of Connecticut's planetarium, built in 1954, fell into disuse after being a hub for science outreach for many years. The planetarium was run and loved by the late Professor Cynthia Peterson; in the restoration of the planetarium, we have worked to continually honor her legacy. In this talk we will share the history of the planetarium, the renovations and updates that have been completed thus far, and our future plans for the planetarium.*

### **“Go Hybrid!” - Patty Seaton**

*After 10+ years of advocating for a planetarium upgrade, I'm finally about to reopen the new theater! Part of the delay was the cost of a renovation: I'm a large dome (55') for a school system budget. I also stubbornly clung to the specifications for a hybrid system. I wanted the capabilities of a digital system but could not compromise the beauty of an optical sky. With the reality of the installation, I've learned a few things about hybrid systems that I wished I would have known earlier. While these lessons would not have changed my mind about a hybrid system, I could have been better prepared. Come learn these lessons with me!*

# 2024 MAPS Conference: Sunday, June 23

*Detailed information about the FINAL day of our 2024 Conference*

## **10:00 AM - 10:30 AM: Coffee Break @ Vendor Hall**

*Sponsored by Worlds*

## **10:30 AM - 11:15 AM: Workshops @ Classrooms**

NOTE: Some workshops have limited capacities, Please sign up for workshops at the Conference Registration table in the Lobby of the Thompson Building.

### **“Spectroscopy” - J.P. Chaffiotte**

*This workshop was developed by the Treworgy Planetarium as part of a NASA Community Anchor Grant. Designed specifically for middle school students, this hands-on STEM activity challenges students to use tools to try to detect the “chemical signatures” of different elements.*

**NOTE: This workshop will also be offered on Friday, June 21 from 11:20-12:05.**

### **“Exploring Visible Light” - Jordan Ecker**

*Light is integral to our understanding of the universe, but can be tricky to understand. This hands on, Next Gen Science standard aligned workshop will use arts and crafts to introduce the topic of visible light. The Exploring Visible Light workshop pairs well with the Spectroscopy workshop.*

**NOTE: This workshop will also be offered on Friday, June 21 from 11:20-12:05.**

### **“Putting the Power in PowerPoint” - Charles Eder**

*Learn how to effectively use PowerPoint to create visually stunning, flat screen astronomy presentations. Using PowerPoint's animation and slide transition features, any presentation can be as dynamic as a fulldome planetarium show. Participants are encouraged to bring a laptop with Microsoft PowerPoint installed to follow along and design their own animation.*

**NOTE: This workshop will also be offered on Saturday, June 22 from 11:15-12:00.**

## **11:15 AM - 11:45 AM: Door Prizes and Closing Remarks @ Planetarium**

## **11:45 AM - 1:00 PM: Lunch and Farewell @ Membership Patio**

*Sponsored by SSIA Technologies*

## Sponsor Spotlight: ASH ENTERPRISES

We would like to thank Ash Enterprises for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at the “Pyxis” level!

Ash Enterprises representatives Jon Elvert and Ben Ponce will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, “Hi!”

Ash Enterprises will deliver their Sponsor Presentation in the Planetarium on Friday, June 21 within the 2:00-3:05 window.



## **Sponsor Spotlight: NASA UNIVERSE OF LEARNING**

We would like to thank NASA's Universe of Learning for sponsoring the 2024 MAPS Conference at the "Pyxis" level!

NASA's Universe of Learning representative Carolyn Slivinski will be in attendance at the conference, so please stop by the Vendor Hall to say, "Hi!"

