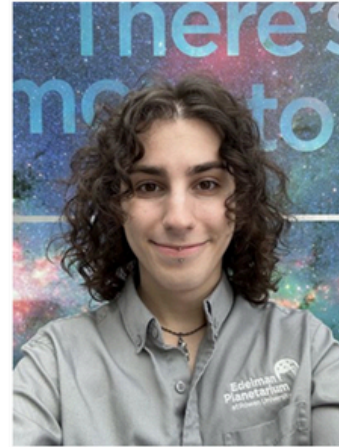




CONSTELLATION

The newsletter of the Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society



The BIG story...

MAPS Election Results and New Officers

Earlier this year, MAPS members were asked to cast their votes to choose the next leaders of this exceptional organization. We want to thank all who participated in the election, especially our five candidates for the three officer vacancies.

As a result of our 2025 election, the following individuals will assume roles on the MAPS Executive Committee starting on June 1 of this year:

JAMES BAUMAN will be our **President-Elect**
AMIE GALLAGHER will continue as our **Secretary**
CAMRYN MARTI will be our **Treasurer-Elect**

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FUN & GAMES

MAPS President's Message

by Noreen Grice

Dear MAPS Members,

Happy Vernal Equinox! It's a time of new beginnings, and that is fitting since this will be my last MAPS President's Message for The Constellation. The June issue will introduce a President's Message from Tony Kilgore, who transitions to full President on June 1. At that time, I will transition to Past-President and Brian Koehler will transition off the Executive Committee, completing his term of Past-President. This presidential succession ensures that MAPS remains a strong organization with mentorship so each president is poised for success from the start! And we can say the same for the Treasurer position, as we now have a Treasurer and Treasurer-Elect.

I want everyone to know that it has been the honor of my life to serve as your MAPS President. Over the past two years, we've participated in a national conference in Tennessee, and hosted an annual MAPS conference in Connecticut. There's been a strong push for new membership in MAPS-region states, and we've introduced specialized User Groups so that members can collaborate with other MAPS members who work in similar environments. We've introduced quarterly ALL MAPS Member Zoom meetings, so no matter where you are, you can participate and reconnect with friends and colleagues. Our Board has met monthly, and we've made several updates to the MAPS Constitution and By-Laws. And our recent election has brought a new succession of President-Elect (James Bauman) and Treasurer-Elect (Cam Marti). We know they will do great things for our organization!

But, I'm still your President and ...we have an amazing joint MAPS/SEPA Conference in Virginia coming up in June! There has been MUCH planning behind the scenes by our host and incoming President, Tony Kilgore. This conference will be unprecedented in many ways and those in attendance will see firsthand! Please review the conference details in this issue and on the MAPS Homepage for details on registration and lodging. There is a limit of 150 delegates for this conference, and we expect a full house, so to avoid disappointment, please don't delay in making your arrangements! We will plan for an ALL MAPS member zoom meeting to provide details on the conference and answer any questions.

In addition to attending the conference, you can help contribute to its success by proposing a conference paper or workshop. These moments help us to learn of new educational and technical strategies and resources that move the planetarium field forward. Presentations and interactions at conferences allow us to internalize new ideas, and bring them back to our domes and the people who we serve.

I'm looking forward to seeing all MAPS members at the MAPS/SEPA conference in just a few months. Yes, you really will be amazed at this conference!

Sincerely,

Noreen, President
The Middle Atlantic
Planetarium Society



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

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Cheektowaga, NY

Patty Seaton

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MAPS Standing Committees and Committee Chairs

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Committee Chair: Dr. Carlos Miranda

Constitution Review Committee

Committee Chair: Mark Percy

Education Committee

Committee Chair: Lee Ann Hennig

Elections Committee

Committee Chair: Kevin Williams

History Committee

Committee Chair: John Meader

Membership Committee

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Memorial Committee

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Program Committee

Committee Chair: Tony Kilgore

Publications Committee

Committee Chair: Brian Koehler

Website Committee

Committee Chair: Tim Collins



The Constellation is the newsletter of the Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society (MAPS). It is published four times a year near the equinoxes and solstices. To submit an article, email publications@mapsplanetarium.org.

Did you know?



The MAPS Executive Committee meets once every month to review the business of the society. These regular gatherings have allowed us to address MAPS member inquiries more quickly, to make faster updates to our website, and to plan conferences and other events with greater efficiency. Many thanks to the MAPS Strategic Planning Committee for recommending monthly meetings, and especially to Noreen Grice for implementing them during her Presidency!

Connect with MAPS!



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2025

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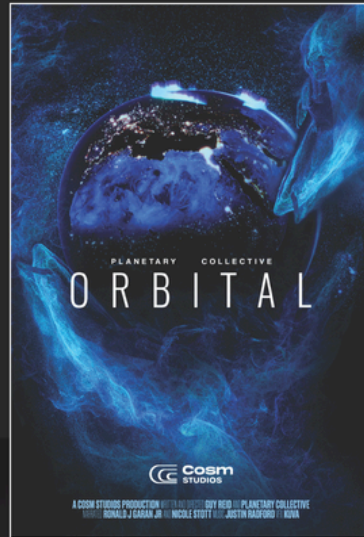
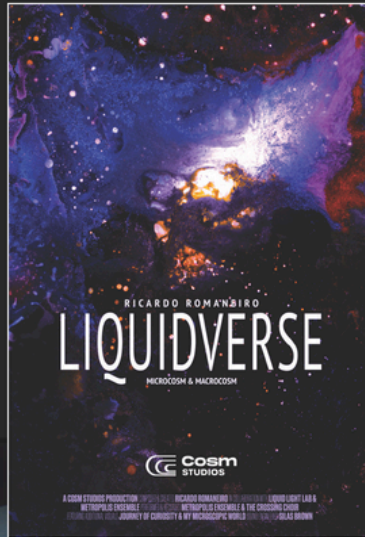
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planetum

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LEARN MORE

Stories from the MAPS Region

Coyote Places the Stars: A Wasco Tale

shared here by April Whitt

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: This is the latest in a multi-part series of stories shared by April Whitt. This story is from American Indian Myths and Legends selected and edited by Richard Erdoes and Alfonso Ortiz, Pantheon Books, 1984.

One time there were five wolves, all brothers, who traveled together. Whatever meat they got when they were hunting they would share with Coyote. One evening Coyote saw them looking up at the sky.

“What are you looking at up there, my brothers?” asked Coyote.

“Oh, nothing,” said the eldest wolf.

Next evening Coyote saw they were all looking up in the sky at something. He asked the next oldest wolf what they were looking at, but he wouldn't say. It went on like this for three or four nights. No one wanted to tell Coyote what they were looking at, because they thought he would want to interfere. One night Coyote asked the youngest wolf to tell him, and the youngest wolf said to the other wolves, “Let's tell Coyote what we see up there. He won't do anything.”

So they told him, “We see two animals up there. Way up there where we cannot get to them.”

“Let's go up and see them,” said Coyote.

“Well, how are we going to do that?”

“Oh, I can do that easy,” said Coyote. “I can show you how to get up there without any trouble at all.”

Coyote gathered a great number of arrows, and began shooting them into the sky. The first arrow stuck in the sky and the second arrow stuck in the first. Each arrow stuck in the end of the one before it like that until there was a ladder reaching down to the earth.

“We can climb up now,” said Coyote. The oldest wolf took his dog with him, and then the other four wolf brothers came, and then Coyote. They climbed all day and into the night. All the next day they climbed. For many days and nights they climbed, until finally they reached the sky. They stood in the sky and looked at the two animals the wolves had seen from down below. They were two grizzly bears.

“Don't go near them,” said Coyote. “They will tear you apart.” But the two youngest wolves were already headed over. And the next two youngest wolves followed them. Only the oldest wolf held back. When the wolves got near the grizzlies, nothing happened. The wolves sat down and

(continues on next page)

Stories from the MAPS Region

Coyote Places the Stars: A Wasco Tale

(continued from previous page)

looked at the bears, and the bears sat there looking at the wolves. The oldest wolf, when he saw that it was safe, came over with his dog and sat down with them.

Coyote wouldn't come over. He didn't trust the bears. "That makes a nice picture, though," thought Coyote. "They all look pretty good sitting there like that. I think I'll leave it that way for everyone to see. Then when people look at them in the sky, they will say 'There's a story about that picture,' and they will tell a story about me."

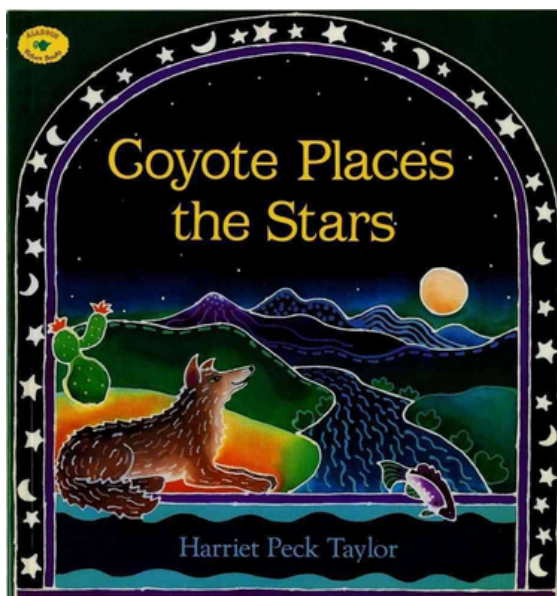
So, Coyote left it that way. He took out the arrows as he descended so there was no way for anyone to get back. From down on the earth, Coyote admired the arrangement he had left up there. Today they still look the same. They call those stars Big Dipper now. If you look up there, you will see that three wolves make up the

handle, and the oldest wolf, the one in the middle, still has his dog with him. The two youngest wolves make up the part of the bowl just under the handle, and the two grizzly bears make up the other side, the one that points toward the North Star.

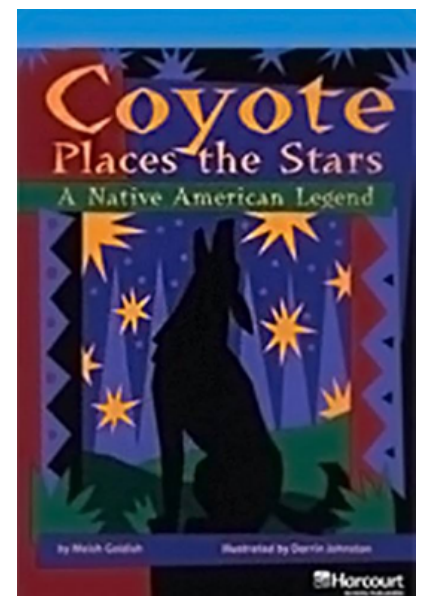
When Coyote saw how they looked, he wanted to put up a lot of stars. He arranged stars all over the sky in pictures and then made the Big Road across the sky with the stars he had left over.

When Coyote was finished, he called Meadowlark over. "My brother," he said, "When I am gone, tell everyone that when they look up into the sky and see the stars arranged this way, I was the one who did that. That is my work."

Now Meadowlark tells that story about Coyote.



Cover art for two different books that share this story. Click on either image for more info about that book.



Stories from the MAPS Region

New Lobby Exhibit at the Treworgy Planetarium (Mystic, CT)

by Brian Koehler

The Treworgy Planetarium at Mystic Seaport Museum in Connecticut completed a major renovation this winter - transforming the exhibit in our lobby into a more well-rounded presentation about navigating using the sky.

Despite a minor upgrade here or there, the core elements of our lobby exhibit had not been updated since 1991. We found that we were telling a rather narrow story of celestial navigation, almost entirely focused on Columbus and Magellan, on latitude and longitude. Our vision for a new exhibit, one that tells a broader collection of navigation stories, gained some traction in the summer of 2023, when two collegiate summer interns spent time at our Planetarium, researching navigation stories from around the world.

With the content having been collected, the project continued in late-2023 with interdepartmental meetings around my Museum. I met with our Facilities Department about paint, carpet, and lighting. I met with our Exhibits Department about the fabrication that would be needed to tell these stories in the best way possible. We vetted a few external exhibit design firms who could partner with our internal Exhibits team. And of course, I had to meet with our Advancement (fundraising) Department to figure out how we might be able to afford to do this job the right way!

In early 2024, we secured 50% of our funding from a private donor - a navigation enthusiast who was particularly interested in seeing Polynesian and indigenous navigation stories included in the lobby. Sometimes, you just get lucky! In this case, we happened to land a donor whose vision and passion were perfectly aligned with ours.

In May and June of last year, I took a six-week parental leave to welcome my daughter, Nora Joy, into the world. The leave began with her arrival, and it ran all the way through the 2024 MAPS Conference that we hosted here in Mystic! Four days into that parental leave, I got a phone call from our donor - he was coming through with the remaining 50% we needed to complete the lobby exhibit!

With the funding in place, the project began to really take off! We contracted a design firm - EXP Studios from Providence, Rhode Island - to transform our vision into reality. Following meetings and discussions, blueprints and schematics, we were ready to begin the renovation work in early 2025.

In mid-February, we were excited to unveil our new exhibit, titled, "By the Light of the Stars: Celestial Navigation Across Cultures."

(story continues on next page)

Stories from the MAPS Region

New Lobby Exhibit at the Treworgy Planetarium (Mystic, CT)

(continued from previous page)

Our new exhibit guides visitors through navigating in three “realms”:

- Inland, when there is no clear horizon
- Along the coast, where you find hazards to avoid
- On the open ocean, when all you see around you is the vastness of the sea

A touch screen gathers and presents the stories that were collected by our interns back in 2023, and the stories are organized into the three realms - two stories inland, two along the coast, and two from the open ocean.

Along another wall of the lobby, three reader rails provide hands-on interactives to allow visitors to explore a trio of themes that we found were linking all of our navigation stories together:

- Rhythms of Earth and Sky
- Tools for Measuring
- Maps of the Heavens

When we put it all together, the new exhibit looks something like this:

THEN...



... and NOW!



(story continues on next page)

Stories from the MAPS Region

New Lobby Exhibit at the Treworgy Planetarium (Mystic, CT)

(continued from previous page)

THEN...



... and NOW!



We are excited to have this new exhibit for visitors to experience both before and after our daily live planetarium shows! The initial feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Visitors have

commented that the space feels more open and inviting, and of course people enjoy the broader collection of navigation stories that we are sharing.

Stories from the MAPS Region

“The Elements of Marie Curie”

Book Review by Francine Jackson

Of all the biographies that have been written, this has to be one of the most meticulous. The author, whose books are always very well documented, really spared no effort to research the life of one of science’s most influential persons. Marie Curie has always been a scientist that all persons respected, and one that many girls wanted to follow. This book takes Mme. Curie both in her lab and away, showing that she was, in addition to a great person of science, a woman who had a family and a personal life not very well known.

Curie’s work with radium was not her first research: she started working with magnetic properties of steel. It was only while pursuing her doctoral work that she began to look into energy coming from uranium. From there, she and her husband Pierre determined to discover an element they believed more active, by pulverizing pitchblende, adding acids, and treating it with hydrogen sulfide, finally subjecting it to ammonium sulfide. They still could not separate their elusive element at that time, but did note what Curie called her “radio-active” substance, eventually coined radium.

This discovery was to consume much of her life’s work; yet, the most important aspect of her life was her family. After Pierre’s untimely death, Marie became a single woman with two young children. Fortunately, her family was there to support her; in addition, her professional

associates realized her importance in continuing in Pierre’s footsteps, naming her as successor to his professional duties.

Although the author takes the reader through the extensive work produced by this amazing scientist, the reader is also introduced to the real Marie Curie: a mother forced to raise her children alone, who often had to step back to treat her many ailments; her long-term affair with married colleague Paul Langevin; her heroic efforts during the war years. Through it all, Marie Curie continued her work, taught her students, and became a major force in early 20th century science.

Sadly, her death came at a fairly young age, but her legacy is still with all of us. As a scientist, she led her students to the highest form of academe; as a mother, she led her two daughters to do their best in their futures; and to all who knew her, Marie Curie was someone who did her best in all she did. In *The Elements of Marie Curie*, author Sobel portrays the woman, the scientist, the person, to the highest level. This book is not to be missed.

“The Elements of Marie Curie”

by Dava Sobel

Atlantic Monthly Press, 2024

ISBN # 978-0-8021-6382-0

Hardbound, \$30.00 USD

Stories from the MAPS Region

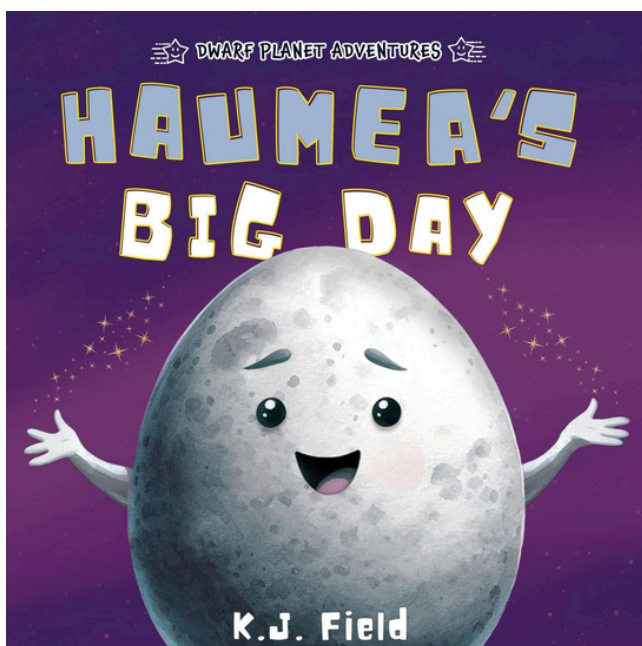
“Dwarf Planet Adventures: Haumea’s Big Day”

Book Review by Francine Jackson

It seems we’re always writing about our planets, but there are so many other members of our solar system, including our dwarf planets. However, with them, what comes to mind? Pluto, of course, but there are others. Author Field has introduced us to one of them: Haumea, a strange little world.

Not only is Haumea an egg-shaped object, it rotates the fastest of any larger body, it has two satellites traveling with it, and it has a ring system!

This book takes us on a Haumea day, just 3 hours and 54 minutes. Each page has the little rock doing a part of the day, from waking up, washing up, getting as much Sun as possible that far out, “interacting” with its tiny moons, and preparing for a “party” with other solar system bodies.



“Haumea’s Big Day”

by K.J. Field

PlutoShine Press, 2024

ISBN # 978-1-955815-18-5

Paperback, \$12.95 USD

Three amazing parts of this book: The entire narrative is in very light poetic form, sure to capture the young reader’s imagination; every page is beautifully illustrated, adding to the enjoyment of the subject; and each page contains a “box” that explains the science behind that page.

In addition, the author has made an Activity Pack, aimed to supplement the information contained in the book. Just go to her website, and print it out.

Haumea’s Big Day is a delight. It is listed for ages 3-9, but an adult reading this to a youngster will enjoy this as much as the child.

Stories from the MAPS Region

“Analog Days”

Lyrics by Patrick McQuillan

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: *Patrick strikes again! These lyrics should be sung to the tune of “Glory Days” by Bruce Springsteen. Enjoy!*

I had friend who was a planetarium
director
When I was in high school
He could opaque all the slides
Make them look really cool, boy

I saw him the other night at the digital
dome
I was walkin' in; he was walkin' out.
We went back inside, sat down,
Saw a few shows
But all he kept talkin' about

CHORUS:

***Was analog days,
Well they passed you by,
Analog days,
In the wink of Virgo's eye,
Analog days, analog days.***

Well there's a girl, works the dome up the
block
I think her school has two of every
SkySkan special effect
Sometimes on a Friday, I'd stop by and see
a few shows
After the time code was recorded
Her Sony laser disk player, well it gave up
I guess it's two years gone by now
We just sit around staring at the arc lamp
She says when it started exploding
She starts crying
Thinking about...

CHORUS:

***Analog days,
Well they passed you by,
Analog days,
In the wink of Virgo's eye,
Analog days, analog days.***

Think I'm goin' down to the dome tonight
I've got some kodalith canisters to fill
And I hope when I get old I don't sit
around
Making baby food jar projectors
But I probably will
Yeah, just sitting back,
Trying to realign
A fourteen slide Mars panorama
Well the time slips away
And leaves you with nothing mister, but
Space cat stories from

***Analog days,
Well, I've got a digital dome,
Analog days,
In the wink of Virgo's eye,
Analog days, analog days.***

***Yeah they'll pass you by,
Analog days,
In the Wink of Virgo's eye,
Analog days, analog days.***

Stories from the MAPS Region

"Your Planetarium Goes HERE!"

Surely, you have all noticed that the "Stories from the MAPS Region" is the most robust section of all recent issues of the *Constellation*. We all benefit from the camaraderie that comes with sharing and hearing about all the fun things that each of us are doing in our domes.

Even though the *Constellation* is published four times a year, we accept content submissions on a year-round basis.



Click [HERE](#) to submit content to the Publications Committee for inclusion in the next issue of the *Constellation*!

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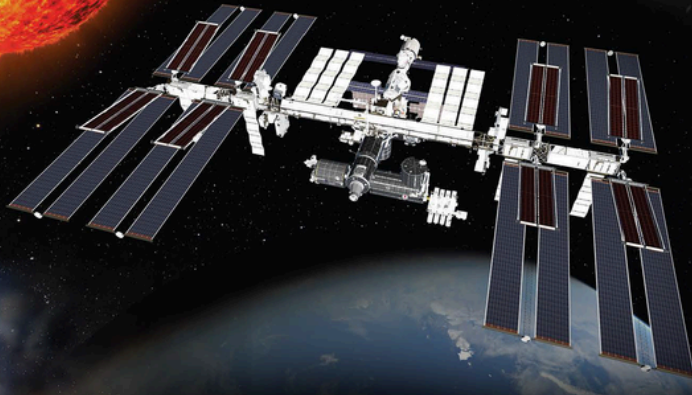
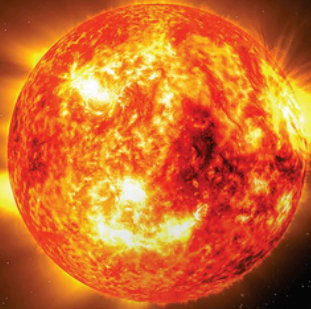
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2025 East Coast Planetarium Conference

CONFERENCE INFORMATION



EXPERIENCE · LEARN · EXPLORE

June 17th - 21st, 2025

This year, MAPS will join forces with SEPA for the East Coast Planetarium Conference, to be held at the Irene V. Hylton Planetarium in Woodbridge, Virginia. Our host, Tony Kilgore, has been planning a fantastic gathering for all of us, and he is ready to share some important conference info with everyone.

Click the conference logo above to visit the [WEBSITE](#) for the East Coast Planetarium Conference, which will be regularly updated with the latest information on registration, travel, session proposals, and conference events.

2025 East Coast Planetarium Conference

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

There will be two hotels for this conference - located on adjacent properties and offering the same nightly rate. Cut-off dates for the hotel discounts are one month prior to the conference, so be sure to book your rooms soon!



Hilton Garden Inn
2500 Neabsco Common Pl.
Woodbridge, VA 22191

\$139 / night (plus taxes)



Homewood Suites by Hilton
2650 Neabsco Common Pl.
Woodbridge, VA 22191

\$139 / night (plus taxes)

Important Conference Dates

Conference Registration opens

APRIL 1

Session Proposals open

WITH REGISTRATION

Late Registration begins

MAY 1

Hotel Conference Rate cut-off

MAY 15

Québec Immersive Films



-22.7°C
 Directors: **Molécule, Dirty Monitor**
 Duration: **37 minutes**
 Companies: **fig55, Poolpio, Zorba Production**
 Distributor: **Hubblo**

Synopsis: This film is an immersive experience in the Arctic Circle inspired by the adventure of the musician Molécule. The viewer will experience the musical creation of the artist in an extreme environment and explore the Arctic, a hostile world made of mystical sounds and vibrations.



ONCE UPON... MY STORY
 Director: **Francis Gélinas**
 Duration: **22 minutes, 30 seconds**
 Company: **Maki Media**
 Distributor: **Hubblo**

Synopsis: *Once upon a time...* children telling tales from their own imagination in their own words. Brought to life in glorious animation, these stories brimming with charm, humour, and adventure blend reality and fantasy and plunge us into the unbridled imaginings of children.



BÉBÉ SYMPHONIQUE
 Director: **Noisy Head**
 Duration: **33 minutes**
 Company: **GSI Musique**
 Distributor: **Hubblo**

Synopsis: Combining 2D, 3D and frame-by-frame animation, this multimedia show transports children from birth to 18 months and their parents into a marvelous universe of shapes, colors and textures, designed to capture their attention.



ONE SKY
 Director: **Sébastien Gauthier & al.**
 Duration: **43 minutes, 36 seconds**
 Company: **Sébastien Gauthier 360 Productions**
 Distributor: **NOIRLab**

Synopsis: Award-winning movie *One Sky* is a collection of beautiful short films about constellations, astronomical instruments and scientific knowledge from various cultures around the world. Each chapter is presented in an original and engaging way with its own artistic style featuring the work of international artists.



LANDS OF THE AMERICAS
 Director: **Patrick Bossé**
 Duration: **45 minutes**
 Company: **fig55**
 Distributor: **Hubblo**

Synopsis: Like a travel diary, *Lands of the Americas* journeys through the works of René Derouin and the lands he has explored. Experienced in an immersive dome or through virtual reality glasses, this 360° film revolves around the artist's quest for identity, which spanned his 60-year career.



UNTOUCHED
 Director: **Michel Lemieux**
 Duration: **4 minutes, 50 seconds**
 Company: **4D ART**
 Distributor: **4D ART**

Synopsis: *Untouched* is an artistic look at life during the pandemic. Bonds between people crumble as society drifts. There's a powerful urge to touch and be touched. Everything seems so out of reach. *Untouched* is an experimental film by director Michel Lemieux. It is a short and immersive film imagined by the artist while living in isolation due to the pandemic in 2020.



INTRODUCTORY ECONOMETRICS
 Director: **Lydia Yakonowsky**
 Duration: **3 minutes, 45 seconds**
 Company: **Lydia Yakonowsky**
 Distributor: **SAS DIVRSION**

Synopsis: *Introduction to Econometrics* is an animated film that explores how various aspects of economic modelling can be creatively visualized. Taking an off-kilter approach to the subject, it frees curves from the bounds of theory and allows them to roam in a living and complex data universe, where graphical grid-like surfaces evolve to create new spaces, vast walls, and ceilings like a canopy of stars.



WORLDS OF ICE
 Director: **Philippe Baylaucq**
 Duration: **34 minutes**
 Company: **NFB (National Film Board of Canada)**
 Distributor: **Hubblo**

Synopsis: *Worlds of Ice* is a 360° contemporary full-dome film that envelops the spectator within worlds of ice that oscillate between the deeply familiar, the unconventional and the transformative. 34 minutes in length, *Worlds of Ice* is an immersive unravelling that reveals the many universes of ice.

ABOUT L'EFFET QUÉBEC:

Québec-based companies, creators, and artists are global leaders within the field of digital creativity, including interactive installations; virtual, augmented and mixed reality; immersive films and exhibitions; architectural mapping; and AI entertainment. They are renowned worldwide for their creativity, innovation, storytelling, agility, and willingness to embrace risk.

L'EFFET QUÉBEC:

The Export expertise cluster endows companies in Québec and elsewhere with shared and sustainable tools to facilitate discovery and networking among the industry's various players, sectors of activity, and markets.



HUBBLO



The Centennial of the Planetarium

Celebrate with the International Planetarium Community!



On May 7, 2025, the International Planetarium Society is celebrating a century of wonder, discovery, and exploration - the 100th anniversary of the planetarium! Mark your calendar and be a part of history, as we honor 100 years of bringing the universe closer to home.

Here's how IPS is celebrating:

- In an online, live-transmitted event, held on May 7th at 6 pm UTC. This will be a "flat" image livestream presented via YouTube, which will feature live and recorded greetings, show pieces, newly-released materials, and other highlights from 100 years of planetarium history.
- An anniversary week on the following days, with a focus on the weekend of May 10th and 11th.

IPS will prepare a number of show materials and make them available for download several weeks ahead of the event. In the May 7th event, we will present these materials and start the celebration week.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE & CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

While most of the materials will be created by IPS and partners from science and industry, we ask you to create two types of short submissions which we plan to feature in the anniversary event:

Submit a Greeting

A very short greeting in your language, your local dialect, or in another way that is special to your country or region.

Submit a Fulldome Short

A short Fulldome recording showing a creative view of something that is special to your region, town, or your venue; anything that is unique at your planetarium or its surroundings.

On the days following May 7, we encourage planetariums, affiliates, and everyone in the community to create a local event from May 7-14, 2025 in which these materials can form the backbone of your local celebration of the anniversary.

[Learn More and Submit by clicking HERE!](#)

The Centennial of the Planetarium

Celebrate with the International Planetarium Community!



Are you planning a local event for the week of May 7-14 to celebrate the Centennial of the Planetarium? We would love to hear about your plans on our [MAPS Facebook page!](#)

Please share your details with all of your MAPS colleagues, so we know about all of the centennial celebrations within our region!

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Teacher's Guide - NGSS Alignment

"I know am biased,
but FIREFALL is my favorite show ever!!
It seriously gives me the chills everytime I play it."
- Pranvera Hyseni
Astronomy Outreach of Kosovo, Founder
Ph.D. Student, Dept. Earth and Planetary Sciences
University of California, Santa Cruz

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MAPS Awards Committee Update

Committee Chair: Dr. Carlos Miranda

The Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society's Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for the MAPS Award of Recognition and the MAPS Exceptional Service Award to be presented at the June 2025 conference!

The MAPS Award of Recognition honors a member who has contributed significantly to the planetarium field, such as innovative programming, outreach, or educational initiatives.

The MAPS Exceptional Service Award recognizes a member who has provided outstanding service to MAPS, demonstrating dedication and leadership within the organization.



Who can nominate?

Any current MAPS member can nominate another MAPS member for these awards.

How do I nominate?

Click on the buttons below to access nomination forms for these awards:

**MAPS
Award of
Recognition**

**MAPS
Exceptional
Service Award**

What is the deadline for nominations?

Nominations must be received by April 18, 2025 in order for the nominee to be recognized at the conference.

Let's celebrate the hard work and dedication of our fellow planetarians!

MAPS Membership Committee Update

Committee Chair: Mike Francis

Not too much happening around the membership committee this Winter. We have one new member, Tammy Barrett at the Giant Screen Cinema Association. Several members have not filled out their membership information form yet. If you're not sure if that is you, drop me an email and I'll check.

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2025 yet, this is the last "Constellation" you'll be getting. You also won't be able to register for the conference at the Irene V. Hylton Planetarium in Virginia. If you need to know whether you're paid up, drop me an [email](#).

MAPS Publications Committee Update

Committee Chair: Brian Koehler

Thank you for continuing to send your articles, photos, songs, and all kinds of wonderful updates from your domes. This newsletter is at its strongest when everyone is contributing, and I really appreciate the submissions I continue to receive from one season to the next.

Our summer issue will be conference-content-heavy, but there's always room for more. So, please keep the great news flowing in!

We accept content submissions year-round, so if you have something but it's not quite "Constellation season" yet, you can always send it to us at:
publications@mapsplanetarium.org.

Upcoming Submission Deadlines:

**Summer 2025:
JUNE 6**

**Fall 2025:
SEPTEMBER 5**

**Winter 2025:
DECEMBER 5**

MAPS Elections Committee Update

Committee Chair: Kevin Williams

While noted in our "Big Story" on the cover of this issue, the Elections Committee wishes to use this space to thank everyone who served as a candidate for this past election cycle.

MAPS members have selected the individuals to the right for officer terms beginning on June 1 of this year.

President-Elect: JAMES BAUMAN

Secretary: AMIE GALLAGHER

Treasurer-Elect: CAMRYN MARTI

Excellence in education deserves extraordinary equipment.

When Prince George's County Schools needed to upgrade the Owens Science Center, in Lanham Maryland, quality could not be compromised. After all, the planetarium was designed by Margaret Noble and they are located, literally, across the street from NASA Goddard.

After careful consideration they chose a GOTO Orpheus Hybrid, a system that will fulfill the requirement for excellence for years to come.

GOTO, Ash Enterprises, and COSM are all honored to have been chosen to make this project a reality. Now let's see what we can do for your planetarium...



Sky by GOTO,
photos by Patty Seaton



GOTO INC

4-16 Yazakicho, Fuchu-shi, Tokyo 183-8530 Japan
E-Mail: info2@goto.co.jp Tel: +81-42-362-5312
URL: www.goto.co.jp/english/

GOTO USA LIAISON

4044 N. LINCOLN, 204 CHICAGO, IL 60618
E-Mail: mark@goto-stars.com Tel: +1 317 537-2806
Contact : Mark Webb

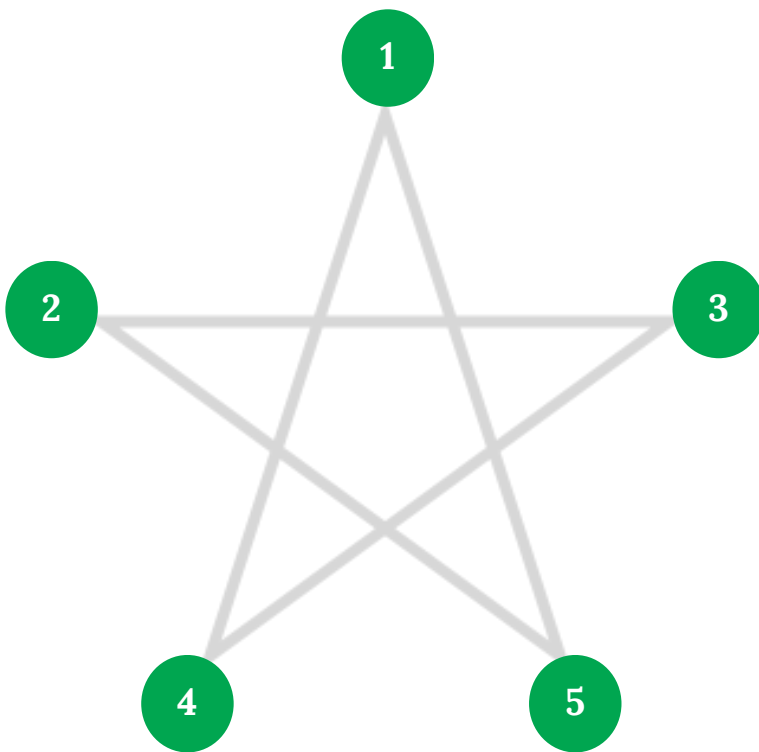
FUN & GAMES

MAPS-themed Puzzles

Grab a pencil and PRINT out the last few pages of this newsletter - you'll want to make sure your print settings are set to **only print pages 29-31**, otherwise you will get 30+ total pages flying out of your printer!

PUZZLE #1:

An interactive social experiment...



Take a pencil (if you have printed it out) or your finger (if you are doing this on a screen) and get ready to trace over the star, beginning at whatever point feels most natural to you.

Take note of the number of your starting point, and as you trace the star, record your six-digit code of each digit as you reach it.

For example, it is NOT possible to trace a code of 1-2-3-4-5-1, but it IS possible to trace a code of 1-5-2-3-4-1.

Do you have your six-digit code? Great! Now this is where it gets interesting...

Scan the QR code to the right, or click on the code if you are viewing this newsletter digitally. This code will take you to a two-question survey.

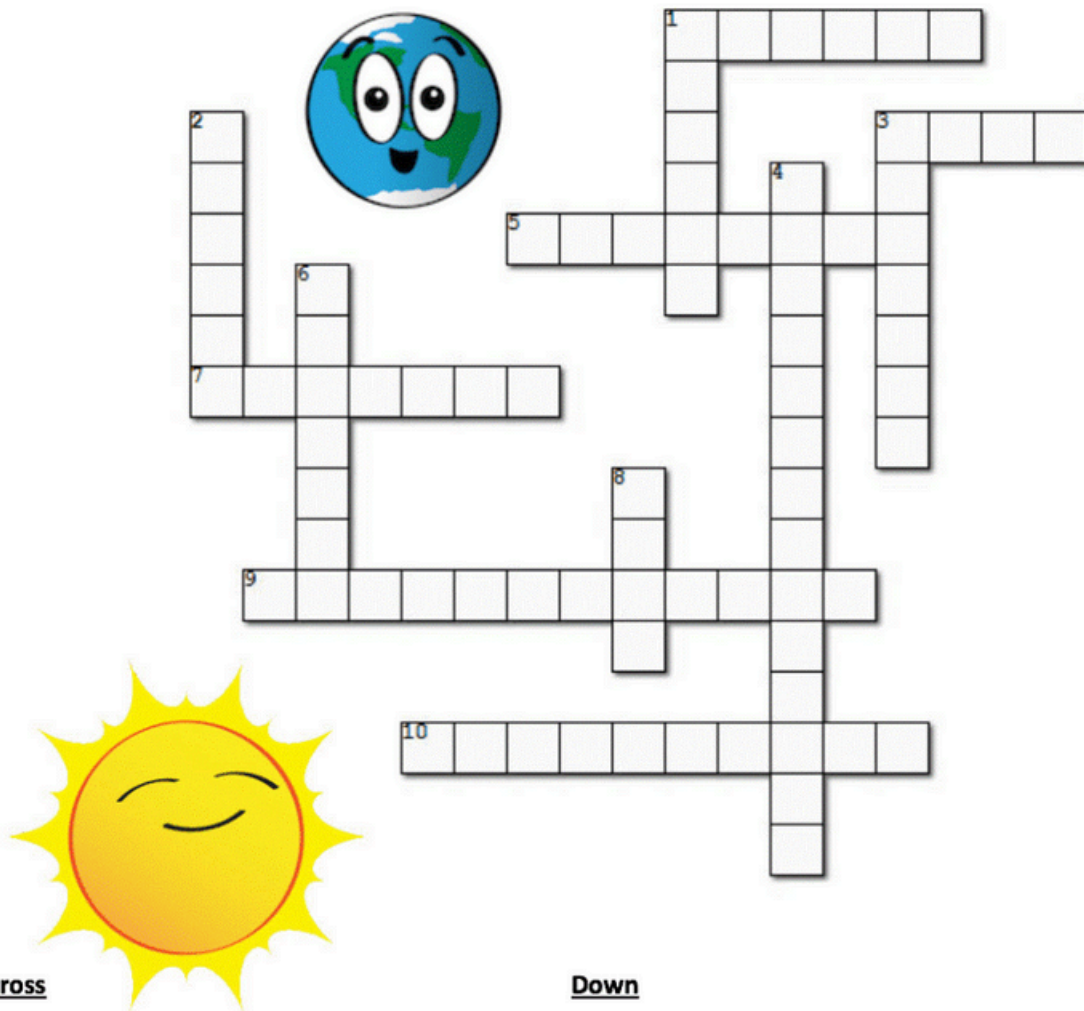
In our next issue of the Constellation, we will reveal how popular each six-digit code is among MAPS members. Will your code be the most common? The least common? Tune in to find out!



FUN & GAMES

MAPS-themed Puzzles

PUZZLE #2: Spring Equinox Crossword



Across

- 1. Northern Hemisphere season that begins in March
- 3. Month when Earth is farthest from the Sun
- 5. Earth's farthest point from the Sun
- 7. When the Sun is directly overhead at noon on the equator
- 9. No sunset here on summer solstice (two words)
- 10. Earth's closest point to the Sun

Down

- 1. Southern Hemisphere season that begins in December
- 2. Earth's orbit is not a perfect _____
- 3. Month when Earth is closest to the Sun
- 4. Shortest day in Northern Hemisphere (two words)
- 6. Invisible line around Earth's waist
- 8. Earth's _____ of rotation is tilted 23.5°

FUN & GAMES

MAPS-themed Puzzles

PUZZLE #3: Space Quote Puzzle

Can you drop the letters into the proper places to complete the quote about space? For a refresher on how to complete the “Fallen Letters Puzzle,” please see the last few pages of the Spring 2024 issue of the MAPS Constellation.

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W	E	A	T	H	N	I	T	H	I	L	A	L	I	N	
W	H	R	V	O	W	U	T	T	R	V	E	W	O	Z	E

						,									

--- JIM LOVELL