

Rochester Museum & Science Center • April 2017

## *RMSC Strasenburgh Planetarium*

### Adult Astronomy Courses

Lifelong learners attend spring and fall sessions of **Astronomy for Adults**, stimulating and provocative programs blending science, the arts and history, at the RMSC Strasenburgh Planetarium. On Wednesday afternoons, sessions last about an hour and are divided between a rich audio-visual presentation and a tour of current stars, planets and constellations using the Planetarium's giant star projector.

Regular presenters are Steve Fentress, Director of the RMSC Strasenburgh Planetarium, and Paul Krupinski, Planetarium show presenter and proprietor of the Buffalo-based Mobile Dome Planetarium.

### Solar Eclipse

The *Eclipses 2017 and 2024* star show returns in July to report on what makes eclipses happen, what to watch for and where to go to view the August 21, 2017 eclipse. As seen from Rochester, 70 percent of the Sun will be covered.

Contact the RMSC  
[www.rmssc.org](http://www.rmssc.org)

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### Homeschool and School Visits

The RMSC Strasenburgh Planetarium offers scientific astronomy courses for homeschool students around ages 12 to 15. These multiple-session courses held Wednesday mornings build upon each other. Each 90-minute session is divided between activities and discussions in the Planetarium lobby and sky lessons and programs in the Star Theater. Parents are in charge of their children's experience and are welcome to sit at the side of the room or work alongside their children. Enrollment is limited to 25 students.

2016 courses included information on eclipses, stars, constellations and optics. Courses will resume in the fall.



Winter and spring bring the annual wave of field trip visits by K-12 schools, preschools and small, highly interested astronomy classes from high schools and colleges. The Planetarium offers a menu of programs designed for specific age levels and informed by the Next Generation Science Standards.

### The Planetarium Today and Tomorrow

In addition to presenting a full range of shows and programs, the Planetarium director is actively engaged in designing and planning for a major renovation to acquire 21st-century capabilities and improve the customer experience. We are in constant contact with potential vendors and other planetariums around the world to make the best possible choices. The new Gateway Building will simplify entry for visitors. New carpeting, seating and lighting will make the Planetarium a proud-to-show destination.

In the Star Theater, software-driven, cloud-connected digital fulldome technology and a new, smaller, higher-intensity star projector will immerse audiences in scientifically accurate worlds from the cosmic scale to the nanoscale, or create new multimedia experiences. The Planetarium and its audience will be able to join a growing worldwide community of science visualization. Reimagined and reenergized marketing will connect the Planetarium to potential customers in new ways. Outside, the architecturally significant building will reidentify as a gem in the Rochester landscape.