

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Robert Herman
Public Information Officer
(559) 733-6606 – office
(559) 303-8568 – cell

Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

Peña Planetarium offers public shows in April and May 7:00 p.m., Friday evenings, April 13 & 27, and May 11 & 18 • 2500 Burrel Ave., Visalia

Visalia - The Sam B. Peña Planetarium, operated by the Tulare County Office of Education, will offer the following evening shows in April and May.

April 13, 7:00 p.m. - *Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity*

Experience the creation of the Milky Way Galaxy, and witness the violent death of a star and subsequent birth of a black hole. Mathematical equations, cutting-edge science, and Einstein's theories fill in gaps along the way in *Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity!*

April 27, 7:00 p.m. - *The Enchanted Reef*

The Enchanted Reef transports the audience to a tropical reef, a one-of-a-kind world: colorful and foreign, full of adventure and danger, riddles and mysteries, old legends and myths; a world inhabited by creatures that are humorous and courageous, lovable and bizarre, charming and dangerous. *The Enchanted Reef* is an exciting adventure for the whole family.

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May 11, 7:00 p.m. – *Saturn: Jewel of the Heavens*

Saturn was once a planet of great mystery. Now we know more than ever about its amazing system of rings, moons and storms thanks to modern robotic space pioneers. From its bizarre moons with mysterious features to the millions of icy particles that compose the enigmatic rings, this new program features a three-dimensional tour of the Saturnian system.

May 18, 7:00 p.m. – *The Explorers*

The Explorers focuses on the human spirit of exploration throughout time and space. The planetarium dome is used to identify constellations, to observe what daily motion can tell us about way-finding, and to study changes in the sky as the observer's latitude changes. During a live section in the program, the audience will get a chance to use their new knowledge to navigate from Tahiti to Hawai'i using techniques practiced by Polynesians for thousands of years. Then... it's on to Mars!

The Explorers is ideal for families with children in grades four and up.

The Planetarium is located in the Educational Enrichment Center on the southwest corner of West Main Street and Woodland Drive in Visalia. Tickets can be purchased at the Impact Center Office 30 minutes before show time or in advance on weekdays between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. **No late seating is offered once the planetarium doors close.**

For information, call (559) 737-6334.

For more information about the Peña Planetarium, visit www.tcoe.org/planetarium.

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