FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025 | VOL. 14

THE EXHIBIT

The Newsletter of UL Lafayette Science Museum

Letter from the Director

DR. JENNIFER E. HARGRAVE, UL LAFAYETTE SCHOOL OF GEOSCIENCES

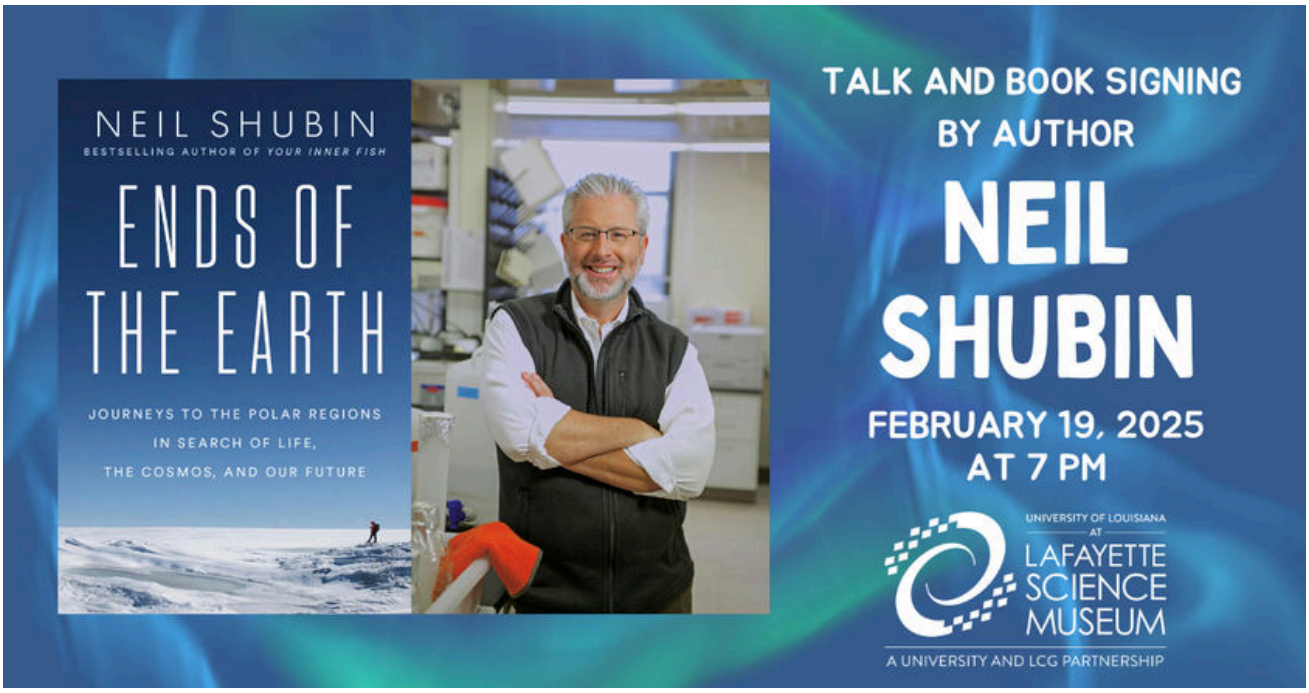
Greetings from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Science Museum. I hope everyone has had a fantastic start to 2025! We're gearing up for some exciting spring events, and we can't wait to share them with you!

Kicking things off is a truly special event on Wed., Feb. 19. We're thrilled to welcome Dr. Neil Shubin, bestselling author, renowned scientist, and University of Chicago professor, for a lecture on his latest book, *Ends of the Earth*. He'll also be signing copies, so you can take home a signed treasure from this brilliant mind. Join us at 7pm for an evening of inspiring stories and science and give Dr. Shubin a warm Acadiana welcome.

Planning the ultimate birthday bash just got easier! Now, you can reserve your spot at the museum with just a few clicks. For dino enthusiasts or space explorers, we've got the perfect party waiting. Multiple time slots are available on Saturdays and Sundays. The museum has the perfect space to make your event unforgettable! From private gatherings to corporate events, we have a variety of rental options and can tailor the space to suit your needs. Visit our website for more details.

Thanks for your continued support of the museum. We hope to see you at our upcoming events.

Best wishes,
Dr. Jennifer Hargrave,
Museum Director



Author's Talk by Neil Shubin

RENOWNED SCIENTIST & BESTSELLING AUTHOR

We are thrilled to present a truly special event you won't want to miss. Join us on Wednesday, February 19 at 7 pm to welcome Dr. Neil Shubin, bestselling author, renowned scientist, and professor at the University of Chicago, for a lecture and book signing for his latest publication, *Ends of the Earth*.

Dr. Shubin has made extraordinary discoveries by leading scientific expeditions to the sweeping ice landscapes of the Arctic and Antarctic. He's survived polar storms, traveled in temperatures that can freeze flesh in seconds, and worked hundreds of miles from the nearest humans, all to deepen our understanding of our world.

Written with infectious enthusiasm and irresistible curiosity, *Ends of the Earth* blends travel writing, science, and history in a book brimming with surprising and wonderful discoveries.

Shubin shares unforgettable moments from centuries of expeditions to reveal just how far scientists will go to understand polar regions. In the end, what happens at the poles does not stay in the poles—the ends of the earth offer profound stories that will forever change our view of life and the entire planet. Doors open at 6:30pm, talk begins at 7pm.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

STEM SATURDAY: GEOLOGY - FEB 8

POP-UP SCIENCE - FEB 15

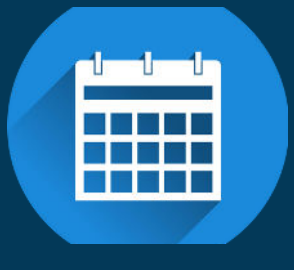
NEIL SHUBIN TALK & BOOK SIGNING - FEB 19

MUSEUM CLOSES @ 5PM - FEB 22 & MAR 1

POP-UP SCIENCE - MAR 1 & 22

STEM SATURDAY: BIOLOGY - MAR 8

SPACE TRIVIA NIGHT - MAR 20



Space Trivia Night at the Museum

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE, WIN PRIZES

We are excited to announce another kind of Date Night at the Museum. Thanks to a generous sponsorship by Aqueos, we will host a Space Trivia Night that's sure to put the FUN in fundraiser! Join us on Thursday, March 20 from 6-9pm.

Grab a date, a group of friends or just bring yourself to test your knowledge of all things astronomical. This trivia night will feature science, sci-fi, pop-culture, and popcorn. Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase as teams of four vie for cool prizes and bragging rights. This event is intended for ages 18 years and up.

A $10 donation will be collected at the door per player, $5 for UL students. Your donation and all proceeds from the event will support events and programs aligned with our mission to provide informative and interactive experiences in STEM fields to the community, K-12 students, and University students, provide innovative research opportunities, and preserve current and future museum collections for use in exhibits, classrooms, and scientific research.

SPONSORED BY :

AQUEOS

STEM Saturdays

Join us for special STEM Saturday activiites on the second Saturday of each month, sponsored by a grant from Halliburton.

On February 8, from 10-2pm UL Lafayette School of Geosciences will present extra activities focused on Geology. Then on Saturday, March 8, we'll have a STEM Saturday focused on Biology. STEM Saturdays offer extra activities focused on a science topic. Activities are open-ended, allowing visitors to come and go while also touring exhibits and the planetarium. Activities are best for elementary and middle school ages, but older kids and adults can have fun learning something new or helping younger children.

Pop-Up Science

SURPRISE! We'll have science pop-up events on the following dates in February and March: February 15 & March 1 & 22. Stop in for a fun science activity anytime between 11am and 3pm, then enjoy exploring exhibits and take in a planetarium show. Our surprise science pop-ups feature extra activities focused on a science topic and are included with regular museum admission. It's always a fun surprise to find out what new science topic we'll explore.

Book Birthday Parties Online!

SCIENCE THEMED PARTIES ARE NOW JUST A FEW CLICKS AWAY

Planning the ultimate birthday bash at UL Lafayette Science Museum just got easier! Now, you can reserve your spot at the museum with just a few clicks. Whether your child is a dinosaur enthusiast or dreams of outer space, we've got the perfect party waiting. With multiple time slots available on Saturdays and Sundays, you're just a click away from an unforgettable celebration! We can't wait to celebrate your child's special day with them.

The museum also has the perfect space to make your event unforgettable! From private gatherings to corporate events, we've got you covered with a variety of rental options, including our auditorium and classrooms. Whether it's a meeting, celebration, or special occasion, we can tailor the space to suit your needs. Visit our website now and let us help plan your event!

In the Planetarium

FEBRUARY & MARCH SCHEDULE

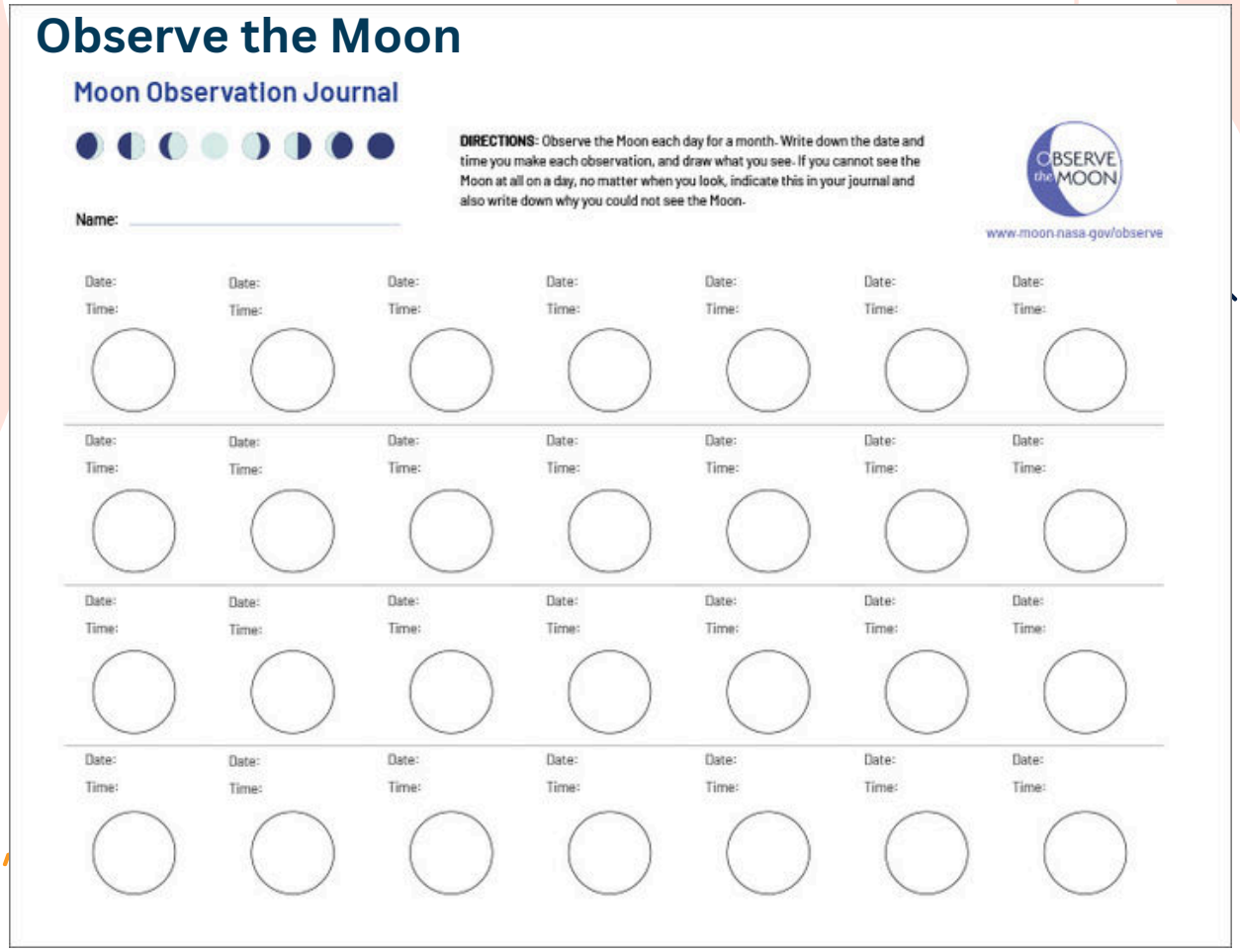
The universe awaits in our state-of-the-art, all-digital, full-dome planetarium! Our regular schedule includes shows every Friday at 4 p.m. and a Saturday morning children's program at 11:15 a.m. Programs continue Saturday and Sunday at 1:30, 2:45 and 4 p.m.

Note: As we work to grow our planetarium team, The Sky Tonight or an alternate program will be shown depending on staff availability.

FEBRUARY	*Friday*	*Saturday*	*Sunday*
11:15 a.m.		Little Star That Could	
1:30 p.m.		Skywatchers of Africa	Skywatchers of Africa
2:45 p.m.		Cosmic Journey	Cosmic Journey
4:00 p.m.	The Sky Tonight	The Sky Tonight	The Sky Tonight

MARCH	*Friday*	*Saturday*	*Sunday*
11:15 a.m.		Little Star that Could	
1:30 p.m.		Awesome Light	Awesome Light
2:45 p.m.		Skywatchers of Africa	Skywatchers of Africa
4:00 p.m.	The Sky Tonight	The Sky Tonight	The Sky Tonight

Curiosity Corner



Observe the Moon

Moon Observation Journal

DIRECTIONS: Observe the Moon each day for a month. Write down the date and time you make each observation, and draw what you see. If you cannot see the Moon at all on a day, no matter when you look, indicate this in your journal and also write down why you could not see the Moon.

Name: _____

OBSERVE the MOON

www.moon.nasa.gov/observe

Date: Time:

Spend the next month getting to know the Moon by observing each day for a month. Write down the date and time, and draw what you see. If you cannot see the Moon at all on a day, write down why you could not see the Moon.

Questions:

1. Did the Moon look the same each day? Describe how it changed.
2. Did you see the Moon at the same time each day? Was there a pattern to the time you were able to observe it? If so, describe the pattern.
3. Did anything prevent you from being able to see the Moon this month? If so, what? Could you figure out what the Moon would have looked like if you could have seen it? If so, how?
4. Indicate where you think the Moon most closely matched each of the following phases: Waxing Crescent, First Quarter, Waxing Gibbous, Full Moon, Waning Gibbous, Third Quarter, Waning Crescent, and New Moon.
5. How do you think the Moon's appearance will change during the next week?