

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 UL Lafayette Science Museum, where science, nature, and the universe come alive!

Summer is a season of exploration, and we're thrilled to be your destination for discovery. Whether you're here to journey through our ancient fossil exhibits highlighting Acadiana fossils, participate in one of our programs, or gaze at the stars in our planetarium shows, there's something here for every curious mind.

Don't miss our special programs designed for families and learners of all ages. We've got lots of fun planned, from hands-on science workshops, our always popular Planetarium Marathon, and our first ever kids trivia! As always, our mission is to inspire wonder about the natural world and our place in the cosmos. Thank you for being part of this journey. We invite you to explore, ask questions, and make unforgettable memories. [Renew or purchase your memberships now](#) and visit us all summer!

See you under the stars (or beside a mastodon!).

Best wishes for a science-filled summer,
Dr. Jennifer Hargrave, Museum Director



Celebrate a Summer of Science

CHECK OUT OUR SUMMER SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Summer at UL Lafayette Science Museum is in full swing. Our summer schedule is filled with activities to intrigue and educate science enthusiasts of all ages. Become a new member or renew your membership now to enjoy the fun all summer long.

Beginning June 4, we'll offer weekday planetarium programs, a children's program at 11:15am and a program for the general public at 1:30pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays throughout the summer.

We'll host STEM Saturdays on June 14 and July 12 thanks to a grant from Halliburton. In June, STEM Saturday will focus on hands-on coding with Lego, and in July we'll learn all about micro-fossils.

You won't want to miss out on Dino Week from June 25-29 featuring a paleontology workshop for kids, Dino Trivia and a Documentary Matinee featuring the film *Why Dinosaurs?*, made by a boy and his film maker father as they travel the globe interviewing paleontologists and dinosaur fans to discover the reason behind humanity's timeless fascination with dinosaurs.

In July, we'll celebrate Space Week from July 16-20 with a Planetarium Marathon and celebrate the anniversary of the Apollo moon landing with a Documentary Matinee featuring the film *Sally*, about the first American female astronaut, physicist Sally Ride.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

STEM SATURDAY: CODING WITH LEGO - JUNE 14

DINO WEEK - JUNE 25-29

DINO TRIVIA - KIDS! - JUNE 28

DOCUMENTARY MATINEE: WHY DINOSAURS? - JUNE 29

MUSEUM CLOSED - JULY 4

STEM SATURDAY: MICRO FOSSILS - JULY 12

SPACE WEEK - JULY 16-20

PLANETARIUM MARATHON - JULY 16-18

DOCUMENTARY MATINEE: SALLY - JULY 19

STEM Saturdays

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

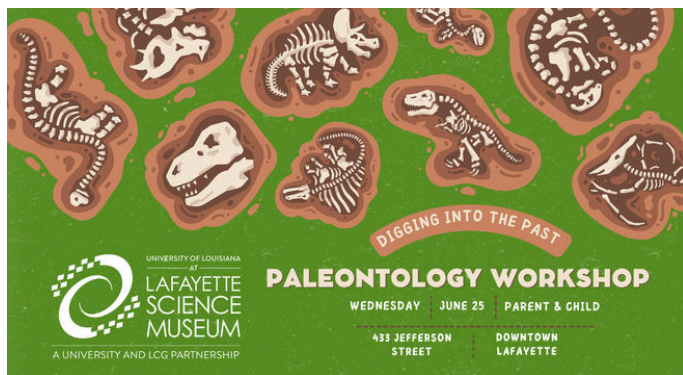


On June 14 from 10-2pm join us for Code Explorers:

Hands-On Digital Discovery, a fun, interactive activity designed for curious minds! Kids will learn the basics of programming through hands-on games and puzzles. Young coders will explore how technology works, one command at a time. No experience needed, just imagination and a sense of adventure!

Then on July 12 from 10am-2pm we'll explore microfossils in Tiny Fossils, Big Clues. Examine real and replica microfossils, called foraminifera, and learn how paleontologists use them to uncover what the world was like millions of years ago.

Digging Into the Past



Join us at UL Lafayette Science Museum for a fossil workshop for parents and kids. On Wed., June 25 from 10-11:30 am, we are offering our first ever paleontology workshop! In this session, you will learn about different types of fossils and make your own fossil replica to bring home. Best for ages 6-12.

Cost: \$10/participant. One complimentary adult chaperone is required per 2 participants. [Registration is required; click here to register.](#)

Dino Trivia: KIDS!



Does your middle-schooler know *T. rex* from *Triceratops*? Put their prehistoric knowledge to the test at our dino-mite trivia showdown just for kids! Join us on Sat., June 28 from 1-3 pm for a fun-filled event packed with roar-some questions, cool prizes, and dino facts. Compete solo or team up with friends and family. It's the ultimate fossil-fueled brain game! Questions will be geared toward our middle school friends. Cost: \$5/participant. [Registration is required; click here to register.](#)

Become a Member!



Summer is the perfect time to become a member of UL Lafayette Science Museum. Memberships support our educational mission, outreach efforts and the creation of new exhibits. Memberships are valid for 12 months from the purchase date and count as charitable gifts for tax purposes. General and Premium levels are available. Benefits include unlimited free visits to the museum & planetarium; invitations to member-only previews & events; free admission to over 360 museums and science centers worldwide through the ASTC Travel Passport Program; a Museum Store discount (varies by level); & discounts on camps, classes, & some events.



Documentary Matinee

AFTERNOON SCIENCE FILMS IN THE MUSEUM

We are pleased to announce a new event this summer called Documentary Matinee. At this fun event, we'll show a documentary film in the museum. Bring a date, bring a friend or just yourself for an afternoon at the museum. Attendance for the educational film screening is free with regular museum admission and will be followed by a discussion.

On Saturday, June 28 and June 29 at 4pm, we will screen the documentary *Why Dinosaurs?* A dinosaur-obsessed kid and his filmmaker father travel the world interviewing paleontologists about the latest research, digging up 150-million-year-old bones, and meeting dino fanatics of all walks of life. WHY DINOSAURS delves deep into the cultural and emotional reasons behind our timeless fascination with these ancient creatures.

Then on Saturday, July 19 at 4pm, we will screen the documentary *Sally*, the story of Dr. Sally Ride, the first American woman in space.



SPONSORED BY



In the Planetarium

JUNE & JULY SCHEDULE

The universe awaits in our state-of-the-art, all-digital, full-dome planetarium! This summer we will offer an 11:15 am children's program and a 1:30 pm general program on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Our weekend schedule will continue with a Saturday morning children's program at 11:15 a.m. and programs at 1:30, 2:45 and 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Planetarium programs are included with regular museum admission.

| JUNE | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 11:15 a.m. | Earth, Moon & Sun | Earth, Moon & Sun | Earth, Moon & Sun | Secret of the Cardboard Rocket | |
| 1:30 p.m. | The Sky Tonight | The Sky Tonight | The Sky Tonight | We Choose Space | We Choose Space |
| 2:45 p.m. | | | | Chasing the Ghost Particle | Chasing the Ghost Particle |
| 4:00 p.m. | | | | The Sky Tonight | The Sky Tonight |

| JULY | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 11:15 a.m. | Flight Adventures | Flight Adventures | Flight Adventures | Accidental Astronauts | |
| 1:30 p.m. | The Sky Tonight | The Sky Tonight | The Sky Tonight | Black Holes | Black Holes |
| 2:45 p.m. | | | | Earth to the Universe | Earth to the Universe |
| 4:00 p.m. | | | | The Sky Tonight | The Sky Tonight |

**As we work to grow our planetarium team, our live planetarium show "The Sky Tonight" or an alternate program will be shown based on staff availability.*



PLANETARIUM MARATHON

JULY 16-18 | 2025

**FIVE SHOWS DAILY AT 11AM, 1PM,
2PM, 3PM & 4PM**



Planetarium Marathon

BINGE WATCH ALL YOUR FAVORITE PLANETARIUM CONTENT

We're thrilled to announce the return of the Planetarium Marathon, which will run July 16-18, 2025. Enjoy five planetarium programs a day for three days in a row! And the only program that will repeat is 'The Sky Tonight' live program at 4 p.m. each day. Some programs are designed for children while most will be for the general public. Topics include constellations, telescopes, planets, stars, galaxies, space flight, and more – pick your preference or see them all! Planetarium programs generally last 35 to 40 minutes. They begin promptly and late entry is not possible. People of all ages are welcome, but programs may overwhelm pre-schoolers because of darkness, length, and more. Please be prepared to exit the planetarium if your child becomes disruptive. Planetarium programs are included with regular museum admission.

| | <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i> |
|----------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 11:00 am | *Rusty Rocket's Last Blast | *Accidental Astronauts | *Little Star that Could |
| 1:00 pm | First Stargazers | Dawn of the Space Age | Two Small Pieces of Glass |
| 2:00 pm | We are Astronomers | Firefall | Voyager |
| 3:00 pm | *Secret of the Cardboard | *Larry Cat in Space | *Earth, Moon and Sun |
| 4:00 pm | The Sky Tonight | The Sky Tonight | The Sky Tonight |

* Children's program. All ages are welcome, but the program is best for elementary school children.

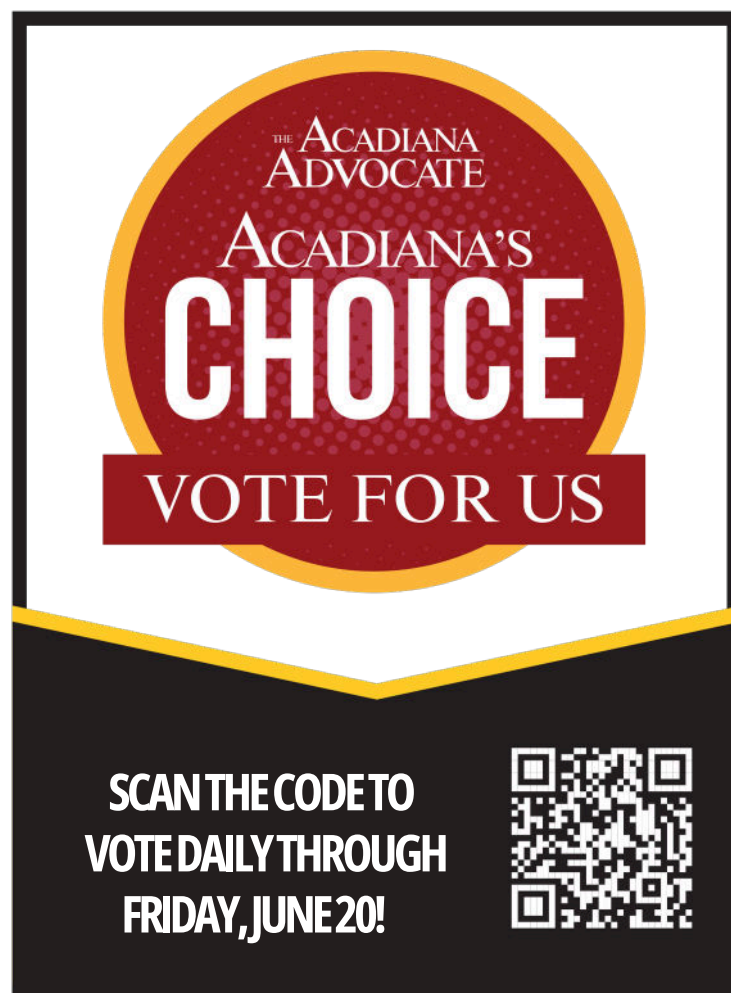


Acadiana Choice Awards: Vote for Us

UL LAFAYETTE SCIENCE MUSEUM NOMINATED FOR BEST MUSEUM

We are honored that UL Lafayette Science Museum has been nominated for the 2025 Acadiana Choice Awards for best museum in Acadiana! [Vote here](#) or with the QR code. Choose the category “Things to Do,” and select Lafayette Science Museum from the Museum subcategory. You can vote for us once every day between now and June 20, 2025, when the winners will be announced.

We strive to bring Acadiana and surrounding areas the best educational, science-based exhibits and activities. Our mission is 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. We appreciate your support as we work to spread the word and win!



Curiosity Corner



CRACK THE CODE

Use the binary code to spell the hidden message! Write the correct letter in each box, then fill in the blanks!

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