

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

Peña Planetarium offers four evening shows in February and March

Friday evenings, February 19 and 26, and March 5 and 19 • 2500 Burrel Ave., Visalia

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

February 19, 7:00 p.m. – *Two Small Pieces of Glass: The Amazing Telescope* (A full-dome presentation)

See how telescopes work and how the largest observatories in the world use these instruments to explore the mysteries of the universe. Following the presentation, the Planetarium will present *Telescopes 101* – a hands-on training and troubleshooting session sponsored by the Tulare Astronomical Association. Those planning to attend *Telescopes 101* must register in advance by contacting Greg Eckes at (559) 739-7270 or president@tulareastro.org.

February 26, 7:00 p.m. – *The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket* (A full-dome presentation)

Climb aboard a magical cardboard rocket with two young children and depart on an extraordinary ride through space. Experience a breathtaking, up-close look at our solar system's planets. You'll see each fascinating planet as never before, and find yourself hurtling toward the outer reaches of our solar system.

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Page 2

March 5, 7:00 p.m. – *Lunar Odyssey*

Come aboard as Trans-Lunar Tours takes you on a fantastic *Lunar Odyssey*. Throughout the trip, experts in lunar mythology, history, science, and astronomy give you a guided tour of the awesome beauty and mysteries of Earth's nearest neighbor in space.

March 19, 7:00 p.m. – *Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity* (A full-dome presentation)

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 holes along the way.

The Planetarium is located on the southwest corner of West Main Street and Woodland Drive in Visalia, in the Educational Enrichment Center. Tickets can be purchased at the Impact Center Office 30 minutes before show time or in advance on weekdays between 1:00 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/ImpactCenter.

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