

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

April 1, 2002

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**“Is There a Solar Storm in Your  
Future?” & “Children of the Stars”**  
at the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum  
2001-2002 Public Lecture Series

The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum rounds out the 2001-2002 public lecture series, "Heliocentricity: Discovering the Sun," with its two final lectures, “Is There a Solar Storm in Your Future?” on April 12 and “Children of the Stars” on May 30 (in English) and May 31 (in Spanish). These lectures will focus on our nearest star, the Sun, and its connection to the Earth.

Both lectures will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. A book signing will be held in the Rainbow Lobby after each lecture. The two books entitled: *The 23rd Cycle: Learning to Live with a Stormy Star* by Dr. Sten Odenwald and *Children of the Stars* by Dr. Daniel Altschuler will be available for purchase in Adler's Infinity Gift Shop which will be open from 5:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. Our last lecture, "Children of the Stars", will be presented in English and in Spanish on consecutive evenings. Galileo's Cafe' will be open for dinner on public lecture nights from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. The cost for each lecture is \$20.00 (\$15.00 Adler Members), special student/teacher rates are available; please contact Annette McDowell at 312-322-0323 or e-mail [extastro@adlernet.org](mailto:extastro@adlernet.org) for more information.

Lectures/Add 1

**Friday, April 12, 2002**

***Is There a Solar Storm in Your Future?***

**Dr. Sten Odenwald**

**NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center**

***\*\*A book signing will follow the lecture\*\****

The Sun is not a quiet star. During the current sunspot maximum period it ejects powerful blasts of plasma and radiation, which can produce electrical power blackouts, satellite damage and even harmful radiation effects to airline passengers and crewmembers. During the last four years we have lost nearly \$2 billion from satellite damage alone. As we continue to rely on advanced telecommunications technology and begin the permanent occupation of space, we need to understand that all of these activities are susceptible to the hazards of space weather phenomena. This lecture will present the evidence for past problems and the future prospects for our increased vulnerability to solar storms.

**Thursday, May 30, 2002 (English)**

**Friday, May 31, 2002 (Spanish)**

***Children of the Stars***

**Dr. Daniel Altschuler**

**National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center, Director, Arecibo Observatory**

***\*\*A book signing will follow the lecture\*\****

Are we alone in the Universe? What is our place in it? Modern science provides us with a framework to better define what we mean by these questions and with the tools to search for an answer. How did we get here and where did all the stuff surrounding us come from? Another important question remains: Is there a future for us on this planet? In his new book *Children of the Stars*, published by Cambridge University Press, the author provides readers with the elements to understand the questions and their answers as far as we have been able to formulate them. This presentation highlights some of the topics of the book.

- more -

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum hours:

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

On the first Friday of each month the Adler offers special programs with extended hours

from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

### **Regular Admission:**

Ultimate Universe Adventure is \$16.00 for adults, \$15.00 for seniors 65 and older and \$14.00 for children 4 – 17.

This package includes admission and the choice of two sky shows.

Galaxy Passport is \$13.00 for adults, \$12.00 for seniors 65 and older and \$11.00 for children

4 – 17. This package includes admission and choice of sky shows.

*The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum is the first planetarium in the Western Hemisphere. Its astronomy programs have reached over 40 million people during the past 72 years. Nine state-of-the-art exhibition galleries located in the stunning new Sky Pavilion and the recently renovated landmark 1930s building present modern space exploration along with the history of astronomy. The world's first StarRider™ Theater, the most technologically advanced, audience-interactive planetarium, fuels the imagination of visitors during virtual flights through the cosmos. With a staff of over 200, the Adler pursues its mission to present the human quest to better understand the universe. Adler scientists and historians, who hold joint appointments at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University, are working at the forefront of research in astronomy and its fascinating history. The Adler is leading the way into the new "Space Millennium."*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (312) 922-STAR**

**TTY: (312) 322-0995**

**[www.adlerplanetarium.org](http://www.adlerplanetarium.org)**

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