

ADLER PLANETARIUM
& ASTRONOMY MUSEUM

November 20, 2003

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Adler Planetarium's Star of Wonder Tradition Illuminates the Very First Christmas for Everyone

A unique and cherished Chicago holiday tradition returns November 28 to delight and inspire audiences for a 73rd year. The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum's holiday show *Star of Wonder* tells the story of the star above Bethlehem.

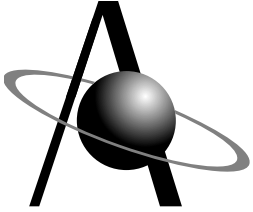
"*Star of Wonder* is a marvelous, meaningful story, one so potent and so beloved, it's a delight for the heart and the spirit," said Adler Astronomer Emeritus Eric D. Carlson, who helped develop the show. "It tells the story of the star in a way that everyone can appreciate, from young people to adults who want to learn more about an event that carries significance to this day. It remains a great, never-ending story."

The show also has special meaning for a fourth generation of Chicagoans and visitors because *Star of Wonder* was one of the Adler's first shows when the planetarium opened in 1930.

"The show has been updated and revised several times to reflect emerging scholarship and technology," said Carlson. "Many theologians think the story is a symbolic literary device, not an actual event. Other religious perspectives take it as a literal story and see the star as a supernatural event." *Star of Wonder* poses these questions and prompts new thinking about this everlasting story.

Star of Wonder will be presented three times daily in the Adler's Sky Theater at 11:30 AM, 1:30 and 3:30 PM, November 28 through January 4.

**Adler Planetarium
& Astronomy Museum**
1300 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605
312-922-STAR



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Museum Hours

Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sat-Sun 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Special Holiday Hours:

Friday, November 28, Friday, December 26 through Sunday, January 4, 2004

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

with extended hours from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The Adler is closed Christmas Day and open New Year's Day.

Normal schedule resumes: Monday, January 5, 2004

On the first Friday of each month the Adler offers special programs.

Regular Admission Fees

Ultimate Universe Adventure is \$18.00 for adults, \$17.00 for seniors 65 and older and \$16.00 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.

Visit www.adlerplanetarium.org or call (312) 922-STAR.

Note to editors: Journalists who wish to screen *Star of Wonder* are encouraged to call (312) 922-0524; mglover@adlernet.org

The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, America's first planetarium, has inspired more than 35 million visitors since its opening in 1930. Nine state-of-the-art exhibition galleries located in the stunning Sky Pavilion present modern space exploration and the history of astronomy. The world's first StarRider Theater, the most technologically advanced, audience-interactive planetarium, features virtual flights through the cosmos. The Adler's mission to present the human quest to better understand the Universe is led by our scientists and historians, working at the forefront of research in astronomy and its fascinating history.

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