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AMERICA'S FIRST PLANETARIUM

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BEWARE THE MARS EMAIL HOAX – BUT BE AWARE THAT MARS VIEWING WILL BE MAGNIFICENT THIS FALL

Celebrate the Red Planet at the Adler with Viewing Events This October & November

An e-mail chain letter about Mars continues to spread across the internet. It claims that on August 27th, Mars will appear brighter than ever in history. This actually refers to August 27, 2003, when Mars did have an unusually close pass by Earth. The email also claims Mars will be as big as the full moon. This is absolutely untrue.

But starwatchers will be delighted because Mars viewing will be magnificent this Fall. In late October, Mars will be approximately 43 million miles away from the Earth – the closest until the year 2018. Mars will appear like a bright star; even with a small telescope it will be possible to see its South Polar Cap.

Adler Planetarium has special observing events for visitors to view the bright planet Mars this Fall:

WHAT: Mars Observing Events

**WHEN: October 27 and 28, 2005
November 4, 2005**

WHERE: Adler Planetarium – 1300 South Lake Shore Drive

OBSERVING EVENTS:

- **October 27 and 28, 2005** - Mars observing via telescopes will take place from 8:30 pm until 11 pm outside on the east side of the Adler. The Adler's Doane Observatory will also be open for viewing. Cost: Free
- **October 27 and 28, 2005** - At 9:30 pm each night, the Adler will feature a live sky show in the historic Sky Theater, featuring Mars, bright stars, and constellations that are visible. Cost: \$5 per person
- **Friday, November 4, 2005** - Mars viewing will take place at the Adler's Monthly **Far Out Friday** event. Mars observing will take place from 8:30 pm until 10 pm. The Doane Observatory will also be open for viewing. Cost: \$15 for adults, \$12 for children (includes museum admission and all evening sky shows)

Explore the Universe at America's First Planetarium - the only museum in the world with two full-size planetarium theaters. The Adler Planetarium is marking its 75th Anniversary by launching a year of celebration and a new vision for its future. A new mission will expand the museum's current focus on astronomy to celebrate human space exploration and America's space heroes. Through this new vision, the Adler will help inspire the next generation of explorers. For more information on Mars and other viewing events, visit www.adlerplanetarium.org

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