

## The Adler Planetarium Celebrates Success of Largest Fundraising Event of the Year—2016 Celestial Ball

CHICAGO – September 14, 2016 – On Saturday, September 10, 2016, the Women’s Board of the Adler Planetarium hosted the Adler’s biggest fundraising event of the year: 2016 *Celestial Ball, Across the Universe*. The annual black-tie gala raised more than \$1.6 million for exhibitions, shows and programs that engage the community and inspire young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

President of the Women’s Board, Linda Gerstman and Chair of the 2016 *Celestial Ball*, Jacqueline Hawwa, welcomed more than 600 guests, including business, civic and philanthropic leaders in the Chicago community. A highlight of the fall gala season, guests at *Celestial Ball* enjoyed a cocktail reception and silent auction featuring once-in-a-lifetime experiences, a seated dinner accompanied by table-side science demonstrations from the Adler’s teen “Science Sommeliers,” followed by dancing, all set under the Adler’s stars.

During the gala, the Adler Planetarium presented the 2016 Corporate Partner Award to S&C Electric Company, represented by President and CEO Kyle Seymour and Chairman John Estey. The Adler is grateful for S&C Electric Company’s generous support of *ATLAS* (Adler Teen Leaders Advancing STEM), and to Estey for his continued leadership and service as a member and former Chair of the Adler’s Board of Trustees.



Adler Planetarium presented S&C Electric Company with the 2016 Corporate Partner Award for their generous support of *ATLAS* (Adler Teens Leaders Advancing STEM). Pictured from left to right: Adler Board of Trustees Chair Scott Swanson, S&C Electric President and CEO Kyle Seymour, Adler Planetarium Women’s Board President Linda Ieleja Gerstman, Adler Planetarium President and CEO Dr. Michelle Larson, and S&C Electric Chairman and Adler Board Member John Estey.

### About the Women’s Board of the Adler Planetarium:

Since 2002, the Women’s Board has been the Adler’s lead partner in supporting science education programs, research, and community outreach. The Board is vital to the museum’s efforts to reach underserved youth—with a special focus on young women—in the fields

of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). For more information on the Women's Board of the Adler Planetarium, please visit: <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/join-give/affiliates/womens-board/>

**About the Adler Planetarium:**

The Adler Planetarium—America's First Planetarium—is more than a museum; it is a laboratory, a classroom, and a community exploring the Universe together. Each year, more than 550,000 visitors experience the museum's interactive exhibitions, live planetarium shows, hands-on, minds-on STEM education programs, and world-class collections. Founded in 1930 by Chicago business leader Max Adler, the Adler Planetarium is a recognized leader in public engagement. The museum's scientists, historians, and educators inspire the next generation of explorers and invite you to explore space with us.

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