

Celebrate Your Place in the Universe at the Adler Planetarium's *Earthfest*, April 22nd – 24th!
Presented in Partnership with WBEZ

CHICAGO – March 23, 2016 – Sometimes you don't need to look beyond your backyard to realize space is freaking awesome. Join us, April 22nd through 24th for *Earthfest*, a weekend-long party, in partnership with WBEZ, celebrating the planet we call home. Take a selfie from space, build a telescope mount for your smartphone, enjoy a live WBEZ broadcast, learn exciting facts about Earth at our scientist-studded astronomy slam, and experience our little corner of the Universe all weekend long. From families, to individuals and groups alike, these three days will dazzle you with wonder as we rediscover the brilliance of Earth and its place in the Universe.

Program Highlights:

Earth Matters with NASA climate scientist Gavin Schmidt: Gavin Schmidt is a world-renowned climate scientist who uses data to create a virtual reality model of earth and the effects of climate change on the planet we call home.

Astronomy Slam: Why is Earth freaking awesome? Adler astronomers square off in head-to-head verbal battles to answer that very question while throwing down their best space facts.

WBEZ Chicago Nerdette: You've heard them on WBEZ, now come see them live at the Adler! Co-hosted by Greta Johnsen and Tricia Bobeda, this live podcast recording will include nerding out about all the things you're watching, reading, listening to, and encountering in real life.

WBEZ Chicago Worldview with Jerome McDonnell : Participate in this in depth conversation about global issues and their local impact hosted by hosted by Jerome McDonnell from *WBEZ Chicago's Worldview*.

Sensing Earth Sensory Station: Use your fingers, eyes and nose to investigate Earth's amazing natural resources. Great for families with children ages 2-6!

One Earth Film Screening: The City of Chicago's official Earth Day event will be held in partnership with One Earth Film Fest, The Chicago Park District, the Adler Planetarium, and WBEZ. The event includes a special film screening that takes place at the Adler as part of *Earthfest*.

DIY 'Scope Challenge: Looking through a telescope for the first time can seriously change your perspective on Earth and your place in the Universe. You don't have to be an astro-photographer to capture cool cosmic photos! In this hands-on, minds-on activity, use recycled materials to build a telescope mount for your smart-phone. Then, try taking a photo through a telescope eyepiece to capture some celestial targets.

HackLabs: Earthfest Edition: Developed in our teen Hacklabs, Chicago-area students showcase projects based on their environments: natural, virtual, electronic, and cartographic.

Northwestern Solar Car Team: NUsolar is Northwestern University's completely student-run organization that designs, builds and races solar-powered vehicles. Find out how they have adapted to design challenges from their very first car in 1999 to the current 6th generation model, which includes headlights, turn signals and a rear-view camera!

Earthfest is included with General Admission and takes place during regular museum hours. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit: <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/events/earthfest>