

The Search Is On! The Adler Planetarium Launches New Sky Show, *Planet Nine*, on May 28.

CHICAGO – May 6, 2016 – The Adler Planetarium's newest sky show, *Planet Nine*, opening May 28, explores the largest of Pluto's neighbors in the Kuiper belt and invites visitors to join in the search for a new ninth planet.

In July 2015, the New Horizons spacecraft gave us our first close look at Pluto, the most famous dwarf planet in the outskirts of our Solar System. The New Horizons flyby was big news, and the pictures it continues to send back to Earth reveal a world far more complex than anyone realized.

Using nothing but their wits (and high-powered telescopes and a thorough understanding of orbital mechanics), these intrepid explorers are making new discoveries about how our Solar System formed—and what it may be hiding.

"We are excited to be releasing our newest sky show, especially in light of news on a potential ninth planet lurking in our Solar System," says Mark SubbaRao, Ph.D., astronomer and Director of the Space Visualization Laboratory at the Adler Planetarium. "After Mike Brown's Kavli Prize Laureate lecture at the Adler last spring, we decided to collaborate on a sky show. Our new sky show will provide our visitors a glimpse into the very latest science, including the evidence as to why we think another large planet is out there."



Mike Brown was one of three recipients of the 2012 Kavli Prize in Astrophysics, which was awarded for discovering and characterizing the Kuiper Belt and its largest members -- work that led to a major advance in the understanding of the history of our planetary system.

Follow Mike Brown and his team at CalTech as they uncover dwarf worlds like the remarkably bright Eris; Haumea, an egg-shaped object rotating incredibly fast; and Sedna, whose orbit takes it deep into the far reaches of the Solar System. Is there a new planet beyond these distant objects? We'll tag along on Mike Brown's first night searching for the ninth planet at the Subaru Telescope in Hawaii. Join us on the hunt this summer!

For press photos, please visit: <http://bit.ly/1Zi8wXO>

Recognition

The Adler Planetarium gratefully acknowledges The Kavli Foundation for its generous support for the creation of *Planet Nine*.

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, over 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.