

Pop-Up Programs at the Adler Planetarium Keep Winter Break Cool

Spend Winter Break Doing Hands-on, Family-Friendly STEM Activities

CHICAGO – December 14, 2016 –Enjoy the gift of exploration and adventure all winter break with pop-up programs at the Adler Planetarium. Visit the Adler from December 27-31 for a fun-filled week of interactive, hands-on, minds-on STEM workshops and events perfect for the whole family.

The Adler Planetarium is partnering with organizations from around the city to bring guests captivating pop-up programs including experiments, workshops and other science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)-focused activities for all ages. Each day will feature different hands-on, family-friendly activities designed to spark engagement, curiosity and fun. And, the best part—pop-up programs are free with admission to the museum!

Program Schedule:

Tuesday, December 27

Come Fly with Us by Engineering for Kids

10 am – 5 pm

Engineering for Kids presents the basic mechanics of flight and aerodynamics—including the forces of lift, thrust, gravity, and drag—by constructing and flying an amazing “Nakamura Lock” paper airplane, which is named after its creator, Eiji Nakamura, an incredible Origami artist.

Wednesday, December 28

Cowings Invention by Bronzeville Children’s Museum

10 am – 1:30 pm

Learn about Dr. Patricia Cowings, the first African American woman scientist to be trained as an astronaut by NASA. Her work and research has helped keep many astronauts from getting sick in outer space. Then create your own 3D space scene with an astronaut, space ship, stars and planets!

Starry Stitches by Yellow Canoe at Wishcraft Workshop

2 pm – 5:30 pm

Stitch your journey to the stars. Map and measure your favorite constellation and then lace it up to create a greeting card or sew a scented sachet. Learn spatial math, have some galactic fun, and make something together!

Thursday, December 29

Wind-Powered Car Design Challenge by Project Syncere

11 am – 3 pm

Using the Engineering Design Process (and the materials provided), you will design, construct, and test a wind-powered car. Will yours be able to travel at least six feet, powered only by the air of a fan?

Friday, December 30

Lunar Launch by Girls 4 Science

10 am – 1:30 pm

In your role as a NASA aerospace engineer, you will design, build, and test a shock-absorbing system that protects two marshmallow “astronauts” and lands them safely on the Moon.

Saturday, December 31

Space Engineering with LEGO® by Play-Well TEKnologies

10:30 am – 2:30 pm

Join us for three engineering challenges:

- Spaceship Battletracks – Build and battle your own LEGO® spaceship.
- Build the Adler – Be part of creating the Adler Planetarium using thousands of LEGO® bricks.
- Mars Supply Run – Engineer your spacecraft gondola to hold and fly supplies to a Mars colony.

And, everyone can enjoy the fun for a little bit longer with extended hours at the Adler 9:30 am–6:00 pm Monday through Friday, December 26-30, and 9:30 am – 4 pm Saturday, December 31.

For more information and to plan your visit, please visit: adlerplanetarium.org.

VIDEO FOOTAGE:

Adler Planetarium b-roll: <https://vimeo.com/149789386>

Recognition

The Adler Planetarium gratefully acknowledges Engineering for Kids, Bronzeville Children’s Museum, Yellow Canoe at Wishcraft Workshop, Project Syncere, Girls 4 Science and Play-Well TEKnologies for their partnership during this week of special programming.

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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