



2019

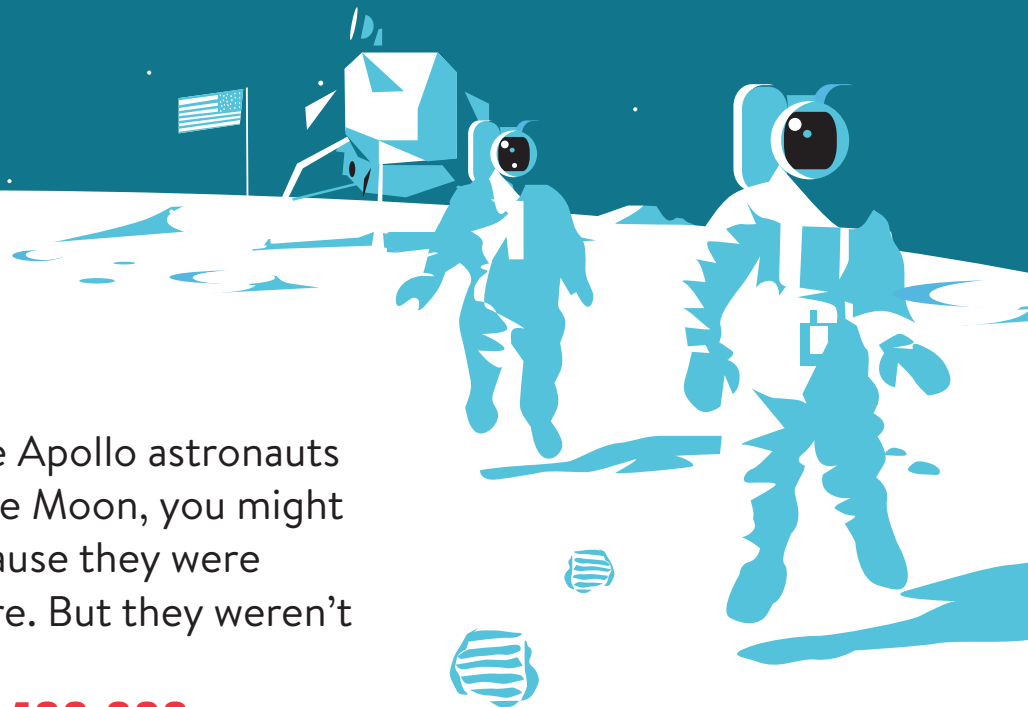
A LOOK BACK

ADLER
PLANETARIUM

WHEN YOU AIM TO ACHIEVE THE IMPOSSIBLE, EVERY STEP COUNTS.

When you see images of the Apollo astronauts taking their first steps on the Moon, you might imagine they got there because they were extraordinary. And they were. But they weren't the only ones.

By NASA's estimate, it took **400,000** people to send those astronauts to the Moon.



Every day, around the world, people of all ages are taking small steps forward, pushing science, technology, and our understanding of the Universe a little further, laying the groundwork for our next great adventure.

Here are some of the adventures that you helped make possible in 2019.

ADLER PLANETARIUM

2019

IMAGINE THE MOON

Presented by



Debuted *Imagine the Moon*, "A gorgeous new sky show!"
—Steve Johnson, Chicago Tribune

13 STREET ARTISTS **1** ADLER MOON BASH

6 CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

>200 PARTICIPANTS

contributed to their neighborhood's Moonshot through our *Chicago Moonshot Mural* project.

ADLER TEENS are conducting the first-ever light pollution survey of Chicago.

In just two months since our *Zooniverse* interactive experience arrived on the museum floor, our guests have classified

>81,000
GALAXIES

Enlisted new community partners to help us explore **AFROFUTURISM**, show our **PRIDE**, and celebrate **LATINX** heritage.

SAID GOODBYE

to the 32-year-old 'scope in the Doane Observatory and

HELLO

to a brand new telescope that will gather 44% more light.



APRIL 17

We became **THE FIRST PLANETARIUM IN SPACE** (aboard the Antares rocket ISS resupply mission).

ZOONIVERSE

Zooniverse wins a Chicago Innovation Award (Adler's second win in two years!)

CELEBRATED THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOON LANDING



with an Apollo astronaut, a spacesuit designer, a rocket fuel engineer, the chief astronaut trainer of Virgin Galactic, and more than 13,000 visitors who joined us in person and online through our related *Google Arts & Culture* exhibits.

Opened the **Community PlayLab**

a collaborative play space for our youngest explorers

Gift in memory of Adler Life Trustee, Jay Whipple

CHICAGO'S NIGHT SKY

Opened our new 5,000 sq. ft. exhibition and new collaborative design space: **Community Star Studio**

It took more than **11,000** members, staff, partners, volunteers and community members like you to help us achieve impossible things this year.

2019 AT THE ADLER PLANETARIUM

IMAGINE THE MOON

In January, the Adler was proud to premiere a brand new sky show, *Imagine the Moon*. From Galileo to the Apollo program, *Imagine the Moon* tells the story of lunar exploration and shows the power of imagination



in the journey of scientific discovery. A new take on the sky-show genre, *Imagine the Moon* offers an invitation to think beyond the dome and recall the personal connections everyone has with the Moon. While informative, *Imagine the Moon* is above all a celebration of human curiosity and a reflection on the stories that unite us and connect us to the Universe.

Imagine the Moon was met with rave reviews in newspapers, on social media, and by word-of-mouth throughout the city. To date, thousands of guests have enjoyed the experience, each of them bringing unique connections and leaving with a personalized impression of the Moon.

THINSAT

This year, teen participants and volunteers marked a sky-shattering milestone, earning the title of “First Planetarium in Space” for the Adler. Mentored by professional scientists and engineers, Adler teens developed the Adler’s first “ThinSat”—a revolutionary type of nanosatellite approximately the size of a slice of bread. Along the way, they acquired skills in electronics, programming, and data analysis and prepared the micro-spacecraft to measure specific wavelengths of light over different regions of Earth—a crucial first step in identifying land and water on the surfaces of exoplanets.

In April 2019, the Adler’s ThinSat successfully launched on board an International Space Station resupply mission and undocked from the primary craft to fly through space independently. Orbiting the Earth

dozens of times throughout its week-long lifespan, the satellite represented the start of a new era for the Adler and the fulfillment of a major promise—to bring real space exploration down to Earth and into the hands of students, volunteers, and the public.



2019 AT THE ADLER PLANETARIUM

LUNAPALOOZA AND MOON BASH

Thanks to the scientific ingenuity of countless explorers, humans have learned a lot about the Moon—what it's made of, where it came from, and how to get there. But even with all our knowledge, the Moon continues to fascinate us. This year, the Adler Planetarium celebrated our cosmic companion in two special events and took its guests on an imaginative journey to the Moon and back.

The first event, *Lunapalooza*, culminated in one of the biggest astronomical events of the year: a lunar eclipse. *Lunapalooza* welcomed hundreds of visitors who braved a winter vortex to witness the full Moon pass into the Earth's shadow. Free hot chocolate and fuzzy pajamas kept guests warm through the night, as the Moon rose to the perfect spot in the sky and cloaked itself in red.

In July, the Adler also hosted a multi-day *Moon Bash* to celebrate Apollo 11. Beginning at July's *Adler After Dark*, guests listened to untold stories from individuals who



worked behind the mission and imagined humanity's "next steps" into the cosmos. To help illuminate the historic event, Apollo Astronaut, and friend of the Adler, Captain James A. Lovell, Jr. joined Beth Moses, Chief Astronaut Instructor at Virgin Galactic, for a special conversation: *To the Moon and Beyond*.

MOONSHOT MURALS

In an effort to connect people to the Universe and to one another, and in celebration of the Moon landing's 50th Anniversary, the Adler Planetarium partnered with



local street artists across Chicago to produce a series of public Moonshot Murals. These collective works of art invited community members to bring to life each neighborhood's Moonshot—an "impossible" dream that can be realized with teamwork and determination.

Over 200 participants collaborated with thirteen artists, at six Chicago Public Library events, to produce an experience that was nothing short of magical. West Englewood residents imagined "Safer Streets" and "More Education, Earning Diplomas and Degrees," while the residents of Lincoln Square dreamt of public art and a spotlight on the area's history. Residents of all ages and abilities came together to demonstrate the power of possibility and teamwork.

2019 AT THE ADLER PLANETARIUM



NEW EXHIBITION

When we stop to witness the awe and beauty of our shared sky, even in a vibrant city like Chicago, we gain perspective, inspiration, and a sense of connection to the Universe and to each other. Opening November 2019, the Adler Planetarium is excited to announce a new exhibition, *Chicago's Night Sky*. This 5,000 square-foot exhibition will inspire half a million annual guests and reveal connections between the stars above and the people who call Chicago home.

In *Chicago's Night Sky*, guests will chart their own discovery, exploring digital interactives, artifacts from our world-class collections, and opportunities to create their own constellations. They'll also engineer solutions to light pollution with insights powered by the scientific work of Adler teens and citizen scientists! Together, we'll celebrate the city we love and show how our shared sky unites us.



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When you support the Adler Planetarium, you help us create programs that connect people to the Universe and each other. And here, under the stars, our community is everywhere.

Join us in 2020, as we celebrate our 90th anniversary and the people who got us there.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE 2020 EVENTS

- MAR 5:** 2020 Webster Memorial Lecture
- APR 15:** Apollo 13 50th Anniversary Event
- APR 23:** Women in Space Science Award Celebration
- MAY 13:** Annual Meeting
- SEPT 12:** Celestial Ball

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