

**“Are we Alone in the Universe?” The Adler Planetarium Invites You to
Find Out Nov. 3 & 4**

-During the Latest Installment of the Kavli Fulldome Lecture Series-

CHICAGO – September 29, 2017 – Thousands of exoplanets have been discovered over the last two decades. How can we determine which of these might be suitable for life? On November 3 and 4, Dr. Lisa Kaltenegger, Director of the Carl Sagan Institute at Cornell University, will discuss techniques and missions that could detect life on these worlds, finally answering the question, “Are we alone in the Universe?” The presentation is part of the bi-annual *Kavli Fulldome Lecture Series* hosted by Chicago’s Adler Planetarium.

The *Kavli Fulldome Lecture Series* takes audiences on a journey to the very edges of human knowledge. Adler experts and leading scientists work together to create dazzling, animated images of real data, which are projected onto the planetarium dome creating an immersive experience. The lecture series is designed to recognize and showcase groundbreaking discoveries in astrophysics, nanoscience and neuroscience in partnership with The Kavli Foundation. This is the fourth *Kavli Fulldome Lecture* in a series that began in 2015. The lecture will be live domecast from the Adler Planetarium to museums, planetariums, and universities around the world.

Event Details:

Friday, November 3

- 7:30 pm: Lecture and Q&A in the *Grainger Sky Theater*
- 9:00 pm–9:30 pm: Reception and public meet and greet with Dr. Kaltenegger
- Prices: \$10, \$5 members, students, and Friends of the Webster Institute (FWI) members

Saturday, November 4

- 12:00 pm–1:00 pm: Lecture and Q&A in the *Grainger Sky Theater*
- Prices: \$17 (include General Admission*), \$5 members, students, and Friends of the Webster Institute (FWI) members

**Guests can upgrade to a Basic Pass or All Access Pass on-site for an additional fee*

Tickets for this event, a full list of partner locations participating in the domecast, and more information can be found on the Adler website at:

<http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/events/are-we-alone-in-the-universe/>

For those unable to attend the lecture, the domecast will be live-streamed via YouTube 360 at <https://www.youtube.com/user/adlerplanetarium/>. For a full 360° visualization experience, use Google Cardboard or another VR device to participate. For the second year in a row, the Adler is proud to provide Google Cardboard to patients at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s

Hospital of Chicago so that they too can view the 2017 Fall *Kavli Lecture* with Dr. Kaltenecker.

Live Domecast viewing locations include (as of Sept. 29):

- Pacific Science Center's Willard Smith Planetarium, Seattle, Washington
- University of Alaska's Planetarium and Visualization Theater, Anchorage, Alaska
- Museum of Discovery's OtterBox Digital Dome Theater, Fort Collins, Colorado
- University of Minnesota's Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium, Duluth, Minnesota
- Maloka Science Center, Bogota, Columbia
- Casper Planetarium, Casper, Wyoming
- Peoria Riverfront Museum's Dome Planetarium, Peoria, Illinois
- H. R. MacMillan Space Centre's Planetarium Star Theater, Vancouver, Canada
- Minnesota State University Moorhead's Planetarium, Moorhead, Minnesota
- Mayo High School's Planetarium, Rochester, Minnesota
- University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History + Planetarium, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- More locations added weekly

About Dr. Kaltenecker:

Dr Lisa Kaltenecker is Director of the Carl Sagan Institute at Cornell University and an associate professor in Cornell's astronomy department. Her research focuses on exploring worlds around alien Suns and searching for signs of life. Her awards include the 2014 Doppler Prize for Innovation in Science and the 2012 Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize for Physics. She was named an innovator to watch by TIME, a Role Model for Women in Science and Research by the European Commission, and one of America's Young Innovators by Smithsonian magazine. She is featured in the new IMAX movie "Search for Life in Space." Asteroid 7734 Kaltenecker is named after her.

Recognition:

The Adler Planetarium gratefully acknowledges The Kavli Foundation for its generous support of the *Kavli Fulldome Lecture Series*. The Kavli Foundation is dedicated to the goals of advancing science for the benefit of humanity and promoting increased public understanding and support for scientists and their work.

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 570,000 visitors experience the museum's interactive exhibitions, live planetarium shows, hands-on, minds-on STEM 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.