

Adler Planetarium Welcomes Back Guests This Summer to Popular Museum Experiences; Announces Full Reopening March 2022

June 10, 2021—The Adler Planetarium is excited to announce we will be opening our doors to guests once again beginning July 3 for weekend screenings of our famous sky shows as well as select public observing events in our new observation park and upgraded Doane Observatory. A new telescope—the largest publicly accessible telescope in the Midwest—was installed in the Doane in February 2020. Dates and ticket information will be announced on the Adler website soon! The museum will fully reopen in March 2022.

Like many cultural institutions, the Adler faced significant challenges during the pandemic. While the city was shut down, we had to make the difficult decision to reduce our staff, and we are working to rehire and retrain positions across all museum departments in anticipation of fully reopening next spring.

When the Adler's doors closed on Saturday, March 14, 2020, we focused our efforts online and have been busy creating new and interactive digital content to connect people all over the planet with the sky we all share. <u>Skywatch</u> <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>Sky Observers Hangout</u>, and our space science comedy variety show, <u>Wow! Signal</u>, have been enjoyed by millions of people throughout the world. Millions more continue to engage with us via our online citizen science platform, <u>Adler Zooniverse</u>, and through rich stories featured in our many <u>Google Arts and</u> <u>Culture</u> exhibitions and blog, <u>The Adler 'Scope</u>. Schools and enrichment programs have also been taking <u>Virtual Field Trips</u> to the Adler since April in a three-dimensional, virtual world that has been built to teach students about the



size and scale of the universe and the planets in our solar system. For more information about all of our digital experiences, visit: <u>Adler Planetarium Online</u> <u>Resources</u>.

We've also been hard at work building a new observation park and are replacing our 80-year-old iconic dome roof. The new copper tiles will shine as a beacon for those visiting downtown Chicago and the lakefront for generations to come.

About the Adler Planetarium:

The Adler Planetarium connects people to the Universe and each other. Whether it is introducing a guest to the Ring Nebula, a neighborhood school to a community partner, a research team to a network of citizen scientists, or one staff member to another, the Adler's focus on meaningful connections dates back nearly a century. The museum typically hosts more than half a million visitors each year and reaches millions more through youth STEAM programs, neighborhood skywatching events, people-powered research, and other outreach efforts. Today, the Adler is bringing our unique approach—scientific exploration rooted in community and connection—to guests from around the world who can enjoy the digital Adler from their own homes, libraries, schools or offices. With the Adler's support, people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities gain the confidence to explore their universe together and return to their communities ready to think critically and creatively about any challenge that comes their way.