

JENNIFER HOWELL

Director of Public Relations

jhowell@adlerplanetarium.org

312.542.2424



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 19, 2024

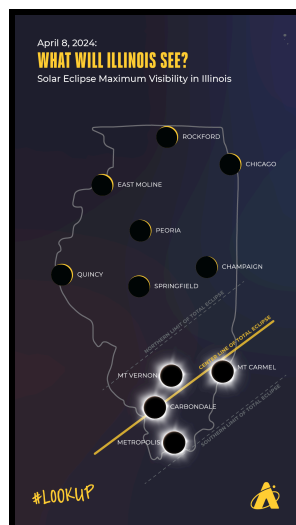
**Adler Planetarium Hosts Free Solar Eclipse Viewing Event
Monday, April 8**

-Chicago will witness 94 percent of the Sun being covered by the Moon-

Join the Adler Planetarium for [Eclipse Encounter '24](#), a free outdoor event for the public (weather permitting) beginning at 12:30 pm, in celebration of the Monday, April 8, solar eclipse. The eclipse will be visible beginning at 12:51 pm CDT, and it will last until 3:22 pm CDT. The peak of the eclipse is around 2:07 pm CDT, when about 94 percent of the Sun will be covered by the Moon as seen from Chicago. *All times listed are specific to Chicago.

Adler staff and volunteers will be handing out free solar viewers starting at 11 am (while supplies last), telescopes fitted with solar filters will be set up around the museum grounds to view the eclipse safely, and two giant pairs of solar eclipse glasses will be available for guests to take fun eclipse selfies. Our Space Shop and Cosmic Cafe will also have satellite locations set up outside so that guests can grab their commemorative eclipse-themed merchandise and a snack.

The April 8 eclipse is the second total solar eclipse visible in the United States in the past seven years. Although totality will not be visible in Chicago, it will follow a path from Mexico up through Texas, and then across the country through the northeastern states. Southern Illinois will experience totality lasting for a few seconds up to a maximum of just over 4 minutes, depending on the location.



JENNIFER HOWELL

Director of Public Relations

jhowell@adlerplanetarium.org

312.542.2424



***Chasing Eclipses Temporary Exhibition**

Brought back by popular demand, our *Chasing Eclipses* temporary exhibition, which was originally created for the 2017 total solar eclipse, has been refreshed and is located on the lower level of the museum. This exhibit highlights the ways people have looked at solar eclipses in wonder. Guests can learn what a solar eclipse is, explore related artifacts from the Adler collections, and discover how people have predicted when solar eclipses would occur. *Chasing Eclipses* uncovers the excitement of traveling the world to chase eclipses and the thrilling stories of solar eclipse sightings worldwide. *Museum admission is required. [Tickets](#) must be purchased online, in advance.

To learn more about the Adler's eclipse-related programming, including facts about solar eclipses and tips for safe viewing, get our [Eclipse Encounter Digital Press Kit](#).

Eclipse Encounter '24 is made possible in part by ITW, ComEd & Exelon.

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.

###