The Adler’s first new exhibition since 2019, Stargazers Hub, opens Saturday, July 29.

Stargazers have long used special tools to spot details in the sky. The same sky that captivated our ancestors continues to inspire new generations of explorers. People across time and all over the world have shared the act of tool-making to strengthen their connection to the cosmos and gaze up at the stars. In Stargazers Hub, you’ll see how people made, used, and shared tools for observing the sky with a multisensory journey through time.

The new exhibition, which takes up a large section of the Adler’s lower level exhibition space, includes a look at many rare astronomical objects, including one of the oldest known telescopes in existence. It also reveals the original compass rose on the Adler’s terrazzo floors. It is the first time in decades that anyone has seen this beautiful element of America’s first planetarium. Snap a selfie at the wall of mirrors, feel the shape of a mirror, and peer through a field of lenses at a hands-on observation station. Take a look at a variety of astrolabes, sundials, telescopes, and other tools used throughout the centuries to explore the mysteries of the sky we all share.

“This space allows guests to get up close and personal with some of the many tools we’ve used to look up at the sky. It’s also a chance for the museum to bring out some of our rarest and most mysterious artifacts—ones that we’ve never shown to the public before,” said Dr. Katie Boyce-Jacino, who joined the Adler this year as curator and director of collections. “My personal favorite is an astrological dial that may (or may not) be able to tell your future.”

Stargazers Hub is included in all Adler admission packages. Tickets are available now, and must be purchased online, in advance of your visit. For more information about the exhibition, visit https://www.adlerplanetarium.org/explore/exhibits/telescopes/.

To access the Stargazers Hub digital press kit for more information, visit: https://www.adlerplanetarium.org/press-room/community-stargazers-hub-digital-press-room

Donor Recognition

Stargazers Hub, part of the collection of Community Design Labs (CDL) at the Adler, is generously supported by a gift from an anonymous donor. The CDLs have become a pillar of the Adler’s unique onsite programming.

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.