

Hawking Book Discussion

On Sunday afternoons at 2:00pm, beginning Feb. 14th, there will be a book discussion of Stephen Hawking's "The Illustrated Brief History of Time". This is one of the most widely known books on cosmology ever published, but many who read it find that it would be helpful to have a knowledgeable guide to help them understand some of the more advanced concepts presented. Retired Grinnell College Physics Professor Beryl Clotfelter will serve as our expert guide as we spend 6 weeks exploring the concepts of the expanding universe, black holes, and the origin and fate of the universe.

BOOK DETAILS:

The Illustrated Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking (c1996)

It is suggested that you have a copy of the book for your use during the 6 week book discussion. Books can be purchased through the Pioneer Book Shop or online. The library has copies of the original Brief History of Time and of The Illustrated Brief History of Time that are available for normal checkout. We can also arrange for additional copies to be borrowed through Interlibrary Loan (please allow 10 days for delivery of ILL materials).



Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory

ALA American Library Association

"Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery" is presented by the Space Telescope Science Institute, Baltimore, Maryland, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the American Library Association, Chicago, Illinois, through funding from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

We are grateful to the following organizations for their support of this exhibit:



Humanities Iowa



Grinnell Tourism



Drake Community Library

930 Park St.
Grinnell, IA 50112
641-236-2661
www.grinnell.lib.ia.us

Visions of the Universe
FOUR CENTURIES OF DISCOVERY

January 15 thru March 26, 2010

Exhibit Events

Helix Nebula Details HST ■ ACS ■ NOAO 0.9m ■ Mosaic I Camera



NASA, NOAO, ESA, The Hubble Helix Team, M. Meixner (STScI), and T.A. Rector (NRAO) STScI-PRC03-11b



Drake Community Library

Opening Weekend Events featuring NASA Education Ambassador David Beier

Friday Evening, January 15th

An opening reception of the exhibit will take place on Friday evening beginning at 6pm. Mr. Beier will present a program for general audiences at 7pm. For children and families a starlight story time at 6:30 will feature a reader's theatre dramatization of the Apollo 11 mission.

Keyhole Nebula



Hubble
Heritage

NASA and The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI) • Hubble Space Telescope WFPC2 • STScI-PRC00-06

Saturday, January 16th.

Throughout the day on Saturday representatives of central Iowa organizations related to space science will be in the lobby to display and discuss their activities. Mr. Beier will present programs for various ages throughout the day.

Space Talk

Speakers Series Every Thursday at 7pm

January 21: *The Inquisition and the Telescope*

Samuel Wormley, retired ISU professor of physics & astronomy, will explore how Galileo helped change the view of our place in space when he first used a telescope to view the heavens 400 years ago.

January 28: *Step back and take a look...*

ISU Extension Climatologist Elwynn Taylor will share views of our world and global trends evident through satellite imagery.

February 4: *Our place in space*

Dr. J.R. Paulson will take us on a tour of the universe, moving from those who are our closest galactic neighbors to those who are at the farthest known reaches of the universe.

February 11: *Life in the universe*

Grinnell Prof. Bob Cadmus discusses the age-old question... are we alone?

February 18: *New eyes on the universe: from Microwaves to Gamma Rays*

Grinnell Prof. Charlie Duke will discuss how scientist use gamma ray telescopes to study distant galactic objects.

February 25: *Mission to Mars*

NASA Solar System Ambassador Deanna Walvatne will discuss the latest discoveries on our closest neighbor.

March 4: *Iowa in Space: Van Allen to Cassini*

University of Iowa Professor Don Gurnett shares about the role Iowa has played in space research over the last 50 years.

March 11: *Songs of the stars*

Grinnell Prof. Bob Cadmus looks at the ways in which the study of musical instruments can provide insight into the behavior of some stars.

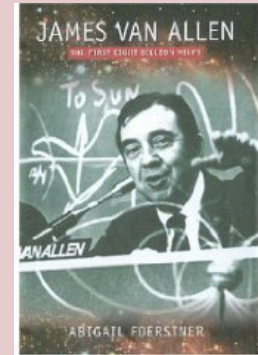
March 18: *Space Adventures*

Lt. Col. Steve Palmquist, Director of Aerospace Education for the Iowa Civil Air Patrol, discusses NASA's manned missions to explore space.

March 25: *The Moon*

Dr. J.R. Paulson leads us on a stunning visual tour of our closest neighbor and shares fascinating facts along the way.

Author Talk & Book Signing Saturday, February 27



James Van Allen: The first 8 billion miles

by Abigail Foerstner

“Astrophysicist and space pioneer James Van Allen (1914–2006), for whom the Van Allen radiation belts were named, was among the principal scientific investigators for twenty-four space missions, including Explorer I in 1958, the first successful U.S. satellite; Mariner 2’s 1962 flyby of Venus, the first successful mission to another planet; and the 1970s Pioneer 10 and Pioneer 11 missions that surveyed Jupiter and Saturn. Although he retired as a University of Iowa professor of physics and astronomy in 1985, he remained an active researcher, using his campus office to monitor data from Pioneer 10—on course to reach the edge of the solar system when its signal was lost in 2003—until a short time before his death at the age of ninety-one. Now Abigail Foerstner blends space science drama, military agendas, cold war politics, and the events of Van Allen’s lengthy career to create the first biography of this highly influential physicist.”

-University of Iowa Press, May 2009

Author Abigail Foerstner will lead us in an exploration of the life of Iowan James Van Allen, the man often referred to as the father of space science. Ms. Foerstner will do a program for children at 10:30am and a presentation for general audiences at 1pm followed by a book signing. Books will be available for purchase.