

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Robert Herman
Public Information Officer
(559) 733-6606 – office
(559) 303-8568 – cell

Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

Peña Planetarium offers four public shows this summer **Friday evenings, June 11 and July 16, and Wednesday afternoons June 16 and July 28** **2500 Burrel Ave., Visalia**

Visalia - The Sam B. Peña Planetarium, operated by the Tulare County Office of Education, will offer the following evening and matinee shows in June and July.

Friday, June 11, 7:00 p.m. – *The Explorers*

“The Explorers” focuses on the human spirit of exploration throughout time and space. The dome is used to identify constellations, to observe what daily motion can tell us about way-finding, and to study changes in the sky as the observer’s latitude changes. During a live section in the program, the audience will get a chance to apply their knowledge to navigate with techniques used by Polynesians for thousands of years. Then . . . it’s on to Mars!

Wednesday, June 16, 1:30 p.m. – *The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket* (A full-dome matinee presentation)

Climb aboard a magical cardboard rocket with two young children and depart on an extraordinary ride through space. Experience a breathtaking, up-close look at our solar system’s planets. You’ll see each fascinating planet as never before, and find yourself hurtling toward the outer reaches of our solar system.

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Friday, July 16, 7:00 p.m. – *Dawn of the Space Age* (A full-dome presentation)

From the launch of the first artificial satellite, *Sputnik*, to the magnificent lunar landings and privately-operated space flights, you'll be captivated by this most accurate historic reconstruction of Man's first steps into space.

Wednesday, July 28, 1:30 p.m. – *The Enchanted Reef* (A full-dome matinee presentation)

This program transports the viewer to a tropical reef – a one-of-a-kind world full of adventure and danger, riddles and mysteries, old legends and myths. *The Enchanted Reef* is a world inhabited by creatures that are humorous and courageous, lovable and bizarre, charming and dangerous. It's an exciting adventure for the whole family.

The Planetarium is located on the southwest corner of West Main Street and Woodland Drive in Visalia, in the Educational Enrichment Center. Tickets can be purchased at the Impact Center Office 30 minutes before show time or in advance on weekdays between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. **No late seating is offered once the planetarium doors close.** For information, call (559) 737-6334.

For more information about the Peña Planetarium, visit www.tcoe.org/ImpactCenter.

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