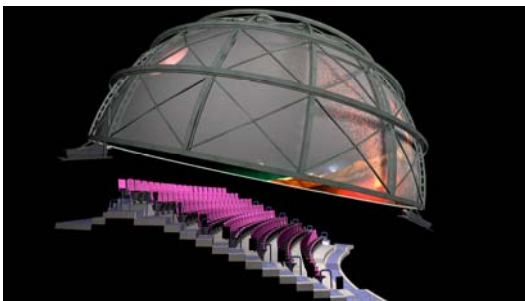


1st Science Center in the World to Have NanoSeam Dome

Dorrance Planetarium, at Arizona Science Center, Re-Opens After Six and a Half Months of Renovations

PHOENIX, AZ: Arizona Science Center is proud to announce the grand re-opening of the **Dorrance Planetarium** after six and a half months of renovations. The planetarium opened to the public on Saturday, May 10 at 10 a.m.



Arizona Science Center's Dorrance Planetarium is the **only planetarium at a science center or museum in the world** that showcases state-of-the-art NanoSeam Dome technology. This dome provides real-time 3D, full-dome and high definition computer graphics with full color and full motion. In addition to the NanoSeam Dome the Dorrance Planetarium uses a Digistar3 projection system, a Digistar 3D astronomy package and a Bowen Technovation audio system.

So what's the difference between the old and the new planetarium one may ask? **IMMERSION is KEY!** The new technology allows the audience to be completely immersed in each show. Instead of looking at the rings of Saturn from a distance, guests now can be taken through them! The additional technology also allows Dorrance Planetarium staff to interact with the audience and at times literally turn over show navigation to them. New interactive seats will allow the audience to directly be a part of each show by taking a hand in things, like landing a space ship on Mars!

The renovated Dorrance Planetarium was made possible by a leadership grant from the Dorrance Family Foundation, best known for its support of important community programs such as the Dorrance Scholars and the original opening of the Science Center's Dorrance Planetarium in 1997.

A variety of daily shows will be available for viewing. Each show runs between thirty to forty-five minutes and are suitable for all ages. From an introduction of the night sky to mythology surrounding constellations and the latest in astronomy news the Dorrance Planetarium shows are completely immersive, educational and entertaining. The show schedule beginning May 10 will include:

- **Starry Storytime** – daily at 11 a.m.
- **Arizona Skies** – daily at 11:45 a.m.
- **Black Holes** – daily at 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.
- **Microcosm: The Adventure Within** – daily at 2:30 p.m.

Every show consists of re-mastered imagery, with new audio and visual effects. The shows *Starry Storytime* and *Arizona Skies* were produced entirely in-house by the Dorrance Planetarium staff. In addition

components of *Black Holes* and *Microcosm: The Adventure Within*, sponsored by Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University, were also produced in-house.

For more information on the re-opening of the Dorrance Planetarium please contact Ashley Carter, public relations specialist, Arizona Science Center. To purchase tickets to any of the shows or to learn more about what Arizona Science Center is all about visit azscience.org. *The mission of Arizona Science Center is to inspire, educate and entertain people about science.*

The mission of Arizona Science is to inspire, educate and entertain people of all ages about science. Arizona Science Center is located at 600 E. Washington Street in Downtown Phoenix (between 5th and 7th Streets). The Center is open daily 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. For additional information, visit azscience.org.