Fri Jan-30  7:30pm  Winter Sky Show.  
Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this winter.

8:30pm  Comet-Chaser ROSETTA and its Wild Bounce at Comet Churyumov-Gerasimenko.  
In humanities first attempt to land on an active comet, the Rosetta mission was designed to find and examine some of the original material of the solar system. Rosetta is the third cornerstone mission of the European Space Agency (ESA) comprehensive HORIZON 2000 Programme. It was also designed to help us understand how comet works as a machine to absorb and re-radiate energy from the Sun. In this talk JPL’s Dr. Claudia Alexander will review some of the mysteries of comets including pros and cons about why we think comets might have brought Earth’s water. Dr. Alexander will then set the stage for the landing of a small probe Philae and then she will walk through 60 hours of time the probe spent on the comet’s surface. Finally, Dr. Alexander will present an overview of initial findings and show some of the beautiful pictures of the unusual object and its fascinating activity.

Fri Feb-13  7:30pm  Winter Sky Show.  
Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this winter.

8:30pm  To Boldly Go: A Hollywood History of Space Travel  
A whimsical look “back to the future” through the lens of pop culture’s hoped-for “manifest destiny” for human beings in outer space. The program will explore a history of proposed method of space exploration and colonization with brief critiques of space science depicted in the movies. Popular programs such as Destination Moon, Conquest of Space, Forbidden Planet, Disney’s Tomorrowland Series, Star Track, 2001: Space Odyssey, Contact, and the recent Interstellar will be mentioned, some in more detail than others. General topic will include rocket science, space stations, black holes, worm holes, both Einstein’s theories of relativity, tidal forces, hyperspace, and other mind-bending ideas that borrow from the jargon of space science and cosmology to embellish the tropes of cinematic science fiction. The program will be presented by CSUN’s graduate Mr. Matt Ventimiglia.

Thu Feb-26  7:30pm  Winter Sky Show.  
Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this winter.

8:30pm  We Are Almost at Pluto – the New Horizon Mission.  
When the New Horizon Mission was launched in 2006, Pluto was the only planet unexplored. Pluto is still much more than something that is “not a planet”, with at least five moons orbiting around it, an atmosphere, seasons, and exotic frosts on its surface. This first close look at Pluto by this mission will reveal whether Pluto is active with plumes and icy volcanoes, or if it is just a dead frozen world. Scientists have already teased out some tantalizing results on this dwarf ice planet. They will be presented by Dr. Bonnie J. Buratti who is a Principal Scientist and technical advisor at JPL.

Fri Mar-13  7:30pm  Winter Sky Show.  
Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during late winter of this year.

8:30pm  The Voyager flyby.  
Jupiter is the second brightest planet in our sky, after Venus. This winter it has been dominating our nighttime sky being located the constellation Leo. Jupiter is the largest and most massive planet in our solar system. In the past it has been visited by several robotic spacecraft missions such as Pioneer, Voyager, Galileo, and even Cassini on its journey to study Saturn. Tonight’s slide program, narrated by Patrick Stewart, will highlight Voyager flyby mission that visited not only Jupiter but also for the first time the other three outer planets of our solar system, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune while providing us with an incredible amount of data and pictures of those four biggest planets of our solar system and some of their large moons.

For show information: call 818-677-5601, or go to: www.csun.edu/science-mathematics/physics-astronomy, and look for Planetarium

For ticket information: call 818-677-2488, or go to AS Ticket Office (in USU) between 10 am – 6 pm  
Tickets: general admission - $6 for one show, $10 for two shows  
student admission - $4 for one show, $7 for two shows