

NEWS RELEASE

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**The Planetarium at the State Museum of Pennsylvania
Presents
Extreme Planets
September 6 through November 30, 2008**

Harrisburg – For centuries, humanity has wondered whether we are alone in the Universe. Now, we are another step closer to knowing the answer. With the discovery in 1995 of the first planet orbiting another star, we now know that planets are not unique to our own Solar System. In fact, these “extra-solar” planets now appear to be quite common.

Beginning September 6, The State Museum of Pennsylvania Planetarium invites visitors to learn more about these planets in the new featured show, *Extreme Planets*. Show times are Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Explore what makes a planet “Earth-like” in the first place, and take an immersive tour of several worlds that just might fit the conditions we’re looking for. From water worlds to molten landscapes, inhabitable moons to planets with multiple suns, these exotic worlds aren’t just science fiction anymore!

Extreme Planets joins the lineup of exciting planetarium shows including *Ultimate Universe* available Saturday at 11:00 a.m. and *BIG* available Saturday at 12:00 noon

A visit to the Planetarium at the State Museum of Pennsylvania includes the 25 minute feature presentation as well as a 5 minute preview of the constellations and other objects visible in our current night sky. Please allow 10 minutes extra time for entering and exiting from the venue once you have arrived at the Planetarium.

Tickets must be purchased prior to the show at the Museum Information Desk on the Ground Floor. Tickets are \$3.50 for adults; \$3.00 for children 12 and under and Senior Citizens. Members of the Pennsylvania Heritage Society® receive a discount rate of \$2.50. Members should present their membership cards at the Museum Information Desk to receive the discount. Group rates are available, call (717) 772-6997.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania, located at 300 North Street, is one of 25 historic sites and museums on the Pennsylvania Trail of History®, administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Closed Mondays. Individuals who need special assistance should call (717) 787-6778 or the Pennsylvania TDD relay service at (800) 654-5984. For more information on *Extreme Planets*, *Ultimate Universe*, or *BIG* as well as other programs, exhibitions and events at The State Museum, click on www.statemuseumpa.org

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