

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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The Planetarium at the State Museum of Pennsylvania

Presents

Heart of the Sun

December 6, 2008 through March 1, 2009

Harrisburg, PA – The State Museum’s new planetarium show, *Heart of the Sun*, shows us the Sun as it has never been seen before. New space-based telescopes along with a new generation of terrestrial instruments take us right inside a living star.

From the Neolithic sky watchers of Europe to the solar observatories and blood sacrifice of Mesoamerica to the sun gods of the Egyptians and Greeks, *Heart of the Sun* reveals how the development of our whole cosmology has been informed by our struggle with this oldest of mysteries. Experience the story that shows how that process continues today as the sheer strangeness of our nearest star continues to challenge our imagination.

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 celestial objects visible in our current night sky

Public presentations of *Heart of the Sun* are offered on Saturdays and Sundays from December 6, 2008 through March 1, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. Special weekday shows for holiday visitors will be available on December 23, 24, 26, & 31 at 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. Also showing, on Saturdays through March 1, 2009 are *BIG* at 11:00am and *Extreme Planets* at 12:00 noon.

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 time of purchase 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. Individuals who need special assistance should call (717) 787-6778 or the Pennsylvania TDD relay service at (800) 654-5984. For more information on *Heart of the Sun* as well as other planetarium shows, programs, exhibitions and events at The State Museum, click on www.statemuseumpa.org