

Press Release

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Family Fun Friday Night is “Out of this World”

(Naperville, IL) – Let yourself get carried away on Friday, February 26, when little astronauts and their big alien parents dress-up and take-off into outer space at DuPage Children’s Museum. The “Out of this World Costume Party” Family Fun Friday Night launches at 6:00 p.m. and orbits until the Museum closes at 8:00 p.m.

Special activities will be offered throughout DCM that night. Shadow play with rocket shapes in the new *Shadow Playground* exhibit. Make your own star-shaped bubble wand and study the aerodynamics of bubbles in flight. Let your imagination get carried away with intergalactic storytelling. If you don’t come in costume, stop by the Art Studio for face painting.

Members of the Naperville Astronomical Association will be on hand to offer information and star-gazing opportunities through telescopes that they’ll provide.

“Astronomy is a field that is available to anyone of any age, and our members are happy to join DuPage Children’s Museum to provide an opportunity to introduce their young visitors to the wonders in a night’s sky,” says Jeff Stillman, Public Relations Officer for Naperville Astronomical Association. “Amateur astronomy is one of the rare hobbies that is affordable to all, and once you get started the experience will have you hooked!”

Memorialize your family’s cosmic adventure with a complimentary photo. Refreshments will be served, including space rocks; Moon Phase cookies; and Tang™, the choice of astronauts; as well as hot chocolate, compliments of Whole Foods. All activities are free with admission or membership.

Prepare to take off at the “Out of this World Costume Party.” There’s no earthly reason to miss this "one small step for fun, one giant leap for learning."

About Family Fun Friday Nights

In addition to greater access to Museum exhibits and activities, extended hours on Fridays (open until 8:00 p.m.) give families with working parents and siblings who attend school during the week a great opportunity to enjoy time together. Families also are welcome to bring their own dinner and enjoy it in the lower level snack area.

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Themed activities and special presentations are also planned for many Friday nights to showcase the talents of various dramatic, music and dance groups. All activities are free with admission or membership. Below is a summary of upcoming Family Fun Friday Nights, all of which run from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.:

- February 5: Washington Jr. High – *Beauty and the Beast*
- February 12: Arya Dance Academy – Indian Dance Performance
- February 19: Story Reading and PJ Party
- February 26: Out of this World Costume Party with assistance from the Naperville Astronomical Association
- March 5: Naperville Park District Dance Academy – Concert Dance Ensemble
- March 12: Naperville Central H.S. Theatre Central – Dramatic Performance
- March 19: Insect Zoo presented by Anderson Pest Solutions
- March 26: Weber Irish Dancers

About DuPage Children's Museum

DuPage Children's Museum helps develop curiosity, creativity, thinking and problem solving in young children via interactive exhibits and programs that make learning fun for children and adults playing together.

The Museum is located at 301 N. Washington Street in Naperville, Illinois, a quick walk from the Naperville Metra train station. Parking is free and the building is wheelchair accessible.

DuPage Children's Museum is a top Chicago-area cultural attraction...*where learning comes in to play*™! For information about hours, Museum admission and membership packages, visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org or call (630) 637-8000.

About Naperville Astronomical Association

The Naperville Astronomical Association is a non-profit astronomy club with a membership of over two hundred individuals and families, mainly from the southwest Chicagoland area. They share an interest in exploring the universe beyond our planet, both with their eyes and minds. They've found that their enjoyment of their hobby can be enhanced when shared with others –young with the old, beginner with advanced amateur and professional – offering "Organized Amateur Astronomy."

For more information, visit <http://www.stargazing.net/naa/index.shtml>.

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