

# ***ETSU DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY***

## **FREE PLANETARIUM SHOWS**

The ETSU planetarium is located on the top floor of Hutcheson Hall (198 S. Dossett Dr) in room 207. Enter Hutcheson Hall at the East end of the building where the elevator is located. Visitors may park without permits during the evening hours in either student or faculty parking lots on campus. Planetarium Seating is Limited to 35 persons on a first-come, first-served basis. All programs Start at 7:00 PM and run for approximately 1 hour.

For more information contact:

Dr. Gary Henson at *hensong@etsu.edu* or at (423)439-6906

**January 20, 2022**

**“A Part of the Sky Called Orion”**

(A full dome video program, see description below.)

**February 17, 2022**

**“FireFall”**

(A full dome video program, see description below.)

**March 17, 2022**

**“The Origin of Time”**

(What causes the seasons and how do we tell time?)

**April 21, 2022**

**“Out There, The Quest for Extrasolar Planets”**

(A full dome video program, see description below.)

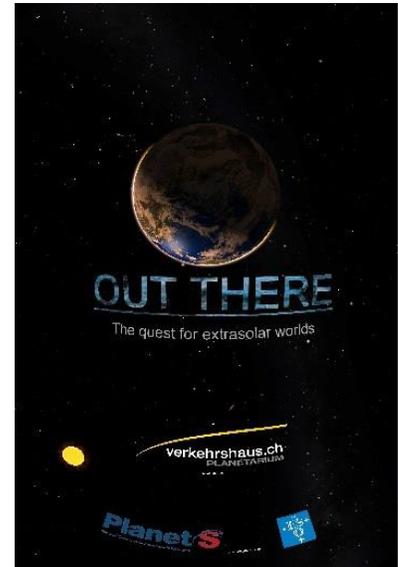
**May 12, 2022**

**“From Earth to the Universe”** (A full dome video program about the history of astronomical discoveries, see description below.)

## Full Dome Video Show Descriptions:

### “Out There: The Quest for Extrasolar Worlds” [Suitable for All Ages]

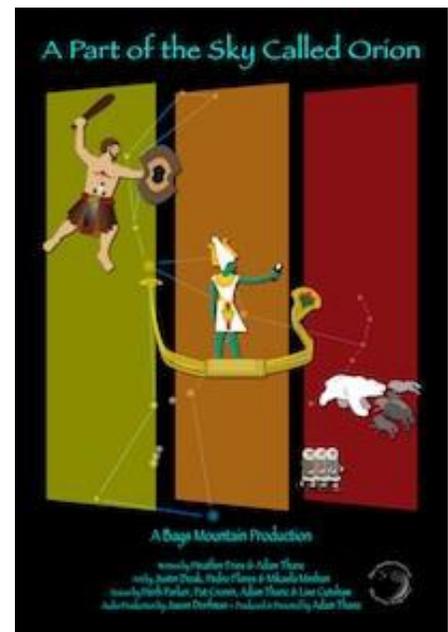
For thousands of years, mankind thought that the Earth was the center of the Universe. Thanks to our curiosity, imagination and urge to explore, we now know that planets like our Earth are nothing special in the cosmos. The Sun is just one ordinary star among hundreds of billions in our galaxy, the Milky Way. With the world’s most powerful telescopes, we are able to explore more and more of the Universe. What we have found so far has surpassed even the wildest expectations of scientists as well as authors of science fiction. Most stars have planets — it turns out they are more common than we thought.



A huge diversity of different worlds is out there, just waiting to be discovered.

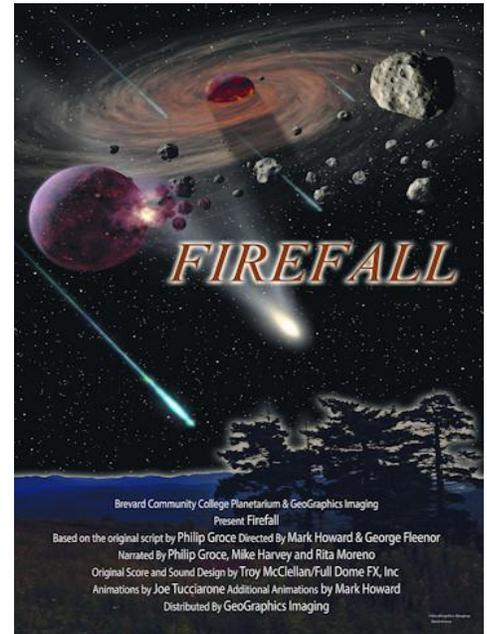
### “A Part of the Sky Called Orion” [Suitable for All Ages]

A fantastic sky lore program covering the Greek, Egyptian, and Inupiaq cultures. We learn how each of these rich cultures viewed the same stars, but had different stories and images. Told in first-person in the context of the teller’s life, we experience their ancient star lore and imagery. This program is not only great for the general public, but is an incredible elementary school experience. This show is best for 2nd grade and above, but even younger ones will enjoy the storytelling imagery and theme. This is storytelling at its best. A wonderful blend of imagery, music, and word; it’s a treat for all.



**“FireFall”: The Story of Comets, Meteors, and Asteroids** [Suitable for Ages 9 to Adult]

Throughout Earth’s violent history, impacts from comets and asteroids have mercilessly shaped its surface. The ancient barrage continues today; from harmless meteors – those brilliant streaks in the night sky, to mountain sized boulders wandering perilously close to Earth. Terrifying and majestic, these invaders from space are capable of utter destruction yet they have delivered life-giving water and most of the organic materials necessary for life. Life on Earth owes its very existence to these denizens of the solar system, yet it could all be wiped out in an instant. This ceaseless **Firefall** is our only tangible connection to the universe beyond and is an ever-present reminder of our own humble beginnings in the hostile environment of space.



**“From Earth to the Universe”** [Suitable for All Ages]

The night sky, both beautiful and mysterious, has been the subject of campfire stories, ancient myths and awe for as long as there have been people. A desire to comprehend the Universe may well be humanity’s oldest shared intellectual experience, yet only recently have we truly begun to grasp our place in the vast cosmos. Come learn about this journey of celestial discovery, from the theories of the ancient Greek astronomers to today’s grandest telescopes.

