



## DECEMBER 18-20, 2015 SCIENCE AND THE CHRISTMAS STAR

**Friday, December 18 and Sunday December 20 – An Astronomer Looks for the Christmas Star** - In this first ever program to be produced entirely by members of the Friends of Arlington's Planetarium, we will explore the natural phenomena that could have been the basis for the Biblical account of the Christmas Star. Using the Planetarium's projector and its state-of-the-art planetarium software, we will travel back in time and space to see the skies of Bethlehem and Judea at the traditional time of the birth of Christ. The audience will be invited to explore the possibilities and vote for the explanation that seems most probable. Along the way, they will discover why some of the celestial events and phenomena that appear from time to time in the nighttime sky inspired both awe and apprehension among ancient peoples, and still do in modern times! Target audience is **all ages**. The digital show will be followed by Q&A with Dr. Alice Monet, President of the Friends of the Planetarium.

**Friday - Doors Open: 6:00pm Show Begins: 6:30 Sunday – Doors open: 1:00pm Show Begins: 1:30pm**



**Friday, December 18 and Sunday December 20 –Season of Light** One of the most popular shows at the David M. Brown Planetarium, **Season of Light** is an annual holiday program about the coldest and darkest of seasons — a time which holds some of the warmest and brightest celebrations of the year. This multicultural presentation traces the history and development of many of the world's most endearing holiday customs, all of which involve lighting up the winter season. Audiences learn about a few Northern hemisphere winter constellations, find out why we have seasons, observe the Sun's path across the sky throughout the year, and see the Earth's tilt and orbit around the Sun. Target audience is **all ages**. Loch Ness Productions.

**Friday -Doors Open: 7:00pm Show Begins: 7:30 pm Sunday – Doors open: 2:30pm Show Begins: 3:00pm**

**Saturday, December 19 – FOAP MEMBER ONLY SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENT!!!** This inaugural Member Thank You event will be a triple feature, featuring the two full-dome shows, *An Astronomer Looks for the Christmas Star* and *Season of Light*, followed by an interactive star talk by Planetarium Director, Jonathan Harmon. There is no charge for admission, but seats may be reserved via Eventbrite with a special code The schedule will be as follows:

7:00 pm: *An Astronomer Looks for the Christmas Star*  
7:30 pm: *Season of Light*  
8:00 pm: Star Talk with Jonathan Harmon.



Tickets and more information: [friendsoftheplanetarium.org](http://friendsoftheplanetarium.org)

Admission for this weekend's programming is \$3 for children (to age 12) and Seniors (60+) and \$5 for Members and adults  
David M. Brown Planetarium, 1426 N Quincy Street, Arlington, VA 22207  
(free parking, 12 min. walk from Ballston or Virginia Square Metro stops)

