

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum
Offers In-Depth Archaeoastronomy
with Dr. Clive Ruggles and
Bringing the Heavens to Earth Exhibit**

Archaeoastronomy, now better known as Cultural Astronomy, incorporates the study of patterns, regularities and unusual occurrences in the heavens with the cultural life addressing the physical, social and spiritual needs of people.

Archaeoastronomy, the stirring theme of the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum's new exhibit, *Bringing the Heavens to Earth: Cultural Astronomies around the World*, looks at cultures throughout the world and illustrates how we all relate to the same awe-inspiring skies. The world's first and only Professor of Archaeoastronomy, Dr. Clive Ruggles, will visit the Adler to celebrate the opening of this one-of-a-kind exhibit, and help visitors explore archaeoastronomy in greater depth with a special lecture on Thursday March 21st, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. There will also be a guided tour of the gallery, led by Adler Associate Curator of the History of Astronomy, Dr. Marvin Bolt, at 6:00 p.m.

Ruggles will present "Ancient Astronomies – Ancient Worlds," an examination of the nature of ancient peoples' interest in the skies and how these are reflected in the design of some monuments and cultures around the world.

Add One / Ruggles

Ruggles teaches at the University of Leicester, in England, where he has held appointments in science-based archaeology, computing studies and archaeological studies. His research combines multiple disciplines, including Anthropology, Mathematics and Astronomy.

Ruggles has earned both his B.A and Master's degree in Mathematics from Cambridge University, where as an undergraduate he served as Chairman of the University Astronomical Society. His continued education features a Doctorate in Astrophysics from Oxford University, and professional posts that include fellowships at both the Royal Astronomical Society and the Royal Anthropological Society. He is a founding member of both the European Society for Astronomy in Culture and the International Society for Archaeoastronomy and Astronomy in Culture. He has also served as the Vice-President and President for the European Society for Astronomy in Culture.

The cost for "Ancient Astronomies – Ancient Worlds," on Thursday, March 21st is \$20 for the general public and \$15 for Adler members. For more information and to register for this event call (312) 322-0323.

In addition, Ruggles will present "Practical Archaeoastronomy" on Wednesday, March 20th at 7:00 p.m. This two-hour class will discuss valuable techniques for archaeoastronomy fieldwork, and will make use of the Zeiss projector in the Adler's Sky Theater to look at the behavior of the heavens and how people have incorporated the sky into their cultural behaviors, ceremonies, and artifacts. Cost for this class will be \$15 for the general public and \$10 for Adler members; visitors can pre-register for this event by calling (312) 322-0551.

Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum hours:

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

On the first Friday of each month the Adler offers special programs with extended hours from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Regular Admission:

Ultimate Universe Adventure is \$16.00 for adults, \$15.00 for seniors 65 and older and \$14.00 for children 4 – 17.

This package includes admission and the choice of two sky shows.

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Add Two / Ruggles

Galaxy Passport is \$13.00 for adults, \$12.00 for seniors 65 and older and \$11.00 for children 4 – 17. This package includes admission and choice of sky shows.

The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum is the first planetarium in the Western Hemisphere. Its astronomy programs have reached over 35 million people during the past 71 years. Seven state-of-the-art exhibition galleries located in the stunning new Sky Pavilion and the recently renovated landmark 1930s building present modern space exploration along with the history of astronomy. The world's first StarRider™ Theater, the most technologically advanced, audience-interactive planetarium, fuels the imagination of visitors during virtual flights through the cosmos. With a staff of over 200, the Adler pursues its mission to present the human quest to better understand the universe. Adler scientists and historians, who hold joint appointments at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University, are working at the forefront of research in astronomy and its fascinating history. The Adler is leading the way into the new "Space Millennium."

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (312) 922-STAR
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www.adlerplanetarium.org.**

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