



City of Chicago  
Richard M. Daley, Mayor



CHICAGO AIRPORT SYSTEM  
Department of Aviation  
Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner



**ADLER**  
PLANETARIUM

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## News Release

### **ADLER PLANETARIUM AND DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION TAKE O'HARE VISITORS *FROM EARTH TO THE UNIVERSE***

*Photo Exhibit Introduces Visitors to Beauty of Space*

CHICAGO – The Adler Planetarium and the Department of Aviation have partnered to host a new photo exhibit, *From Earth to the Universe*, now on display at O'Hare International Airport. The stunning collection of more than 50 astronomical images showcases dramatic views from our Universe and is located in the pedestrian walkway tunnel near the O'Hare CTA Blue Line station.

"We are pleased to feature this fascinating and engaging exhibit for the millions of passengers who will travel through O'Hare this year," said Aviation Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino. "This exhibit will capture the imagination of children and adults alike as they arrive and depart from Chicago."

*From Earth to the Universe* is a series of free exhibitions designed to bring the beauty of the Universe to the general public and inspire them to learn more about astronomy. O'Hare is one of several non-traditional venues playing host to the worldwide exhibition. Other venues include parks, gardens, shopping malls and metro stations, including the Exhibits Mall of Asia in the Philippines, Central Park of Mendoza City in Argentina, the Royal Dublin Society Arena in Ireland, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Bulgaria and the Geo Park Museum of Qeshm, Iran.

"The Adler is proud to bring a dynamic NASA exhibition to O'Hare International Airport," said Paul H. Knappenberger Jr., PhD, president of the Adler Planetarium. "O'Hare is a wonderful place to introduce visitors from around the world to the *International Year of Astronomy* and to these amazing images from across the Universe. We are confident the exhibition will inspire people to look up and learn more about the night sky."

The images in *From Earth to the Universe* include a variety of astronomical objects – planets, comets, stars, nebulae and galaxies – seven of these images were captured by astronomers at the Adler Planetarium and the Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics at the University of Chicago. The exhibition, generously funded through NASA, is one of many Adler programs celebrating the *International Year of Astronomy* (2009), which recognizes the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Galileo's use of a telescope to study the heavens.

## O'HARE PHOTO EXHIBIT/page two

The exhibit is one of the first to introduce Microsoft's new mobile phone technology Tag, [www.microsoft.com/tag](http://www.microsoft.com/tag). Viewers with an Internet enabled mobile camera phone can photograph the bar code [tag] posted on each image. Snapping the 'tag' allows the viewer to retrieve more information about the featured celestial body from a specially-created mobile website. The Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics helped the Adler develop the digital content for this component.

*From Earth to the Universe* will be on display at O'Hare through December 31, 2009. The exhibit aligns perfectly with *Science Chicago: Life's a Lab*, a year-long initiative throughout metropolitan Chicago to encourage our community to explore and discover the wonders of science. Spearheaded by The Museum of Science and Industry, the program brings together more than 140 of the Chicago area's leading academic, scientific, corporate, cultural and non-profit institutions to host thousands of programs that provide hands-on learning; spur thoughtful debate; and build enthusiasm for the pursuit of cutting-edge science. For more information about Science Chicago please visit [www.sciencechicago.com](http://www.sciencechicago.com).

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### **ABOUT THE ADLER PLANETARIUM**

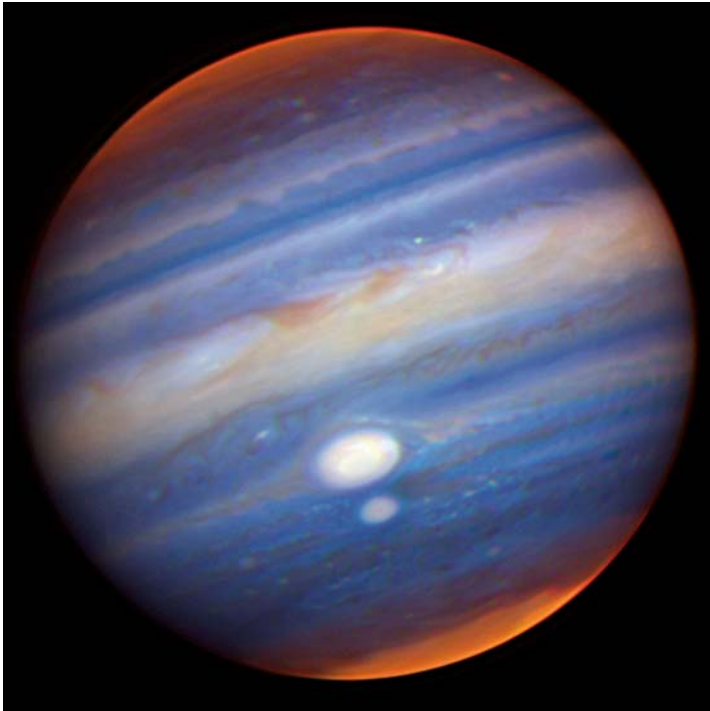
The Adler Planetarium – America's First Planetarium – was founded in 1930 by Chicago business leader Max Adler. Following its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Adler began a transformation to become the world's leading space science center and inspire the next generation of explorers by sharing the personal stories of human space exploration and America's space heroes. The Adler is a recognized leader in science education, with a focus on inspiring young people to pursue careers in science. Learn more at [www.adlerplanetarium.org](http://www.adlerplanetarium.org).

### **ABOUT THE CHICAGO AIRPORT SYSTEM**

The Chicago Airport System is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit [www.flychicago.com](http://www.flychicago.com) to learn more about the Chicago Airport System.

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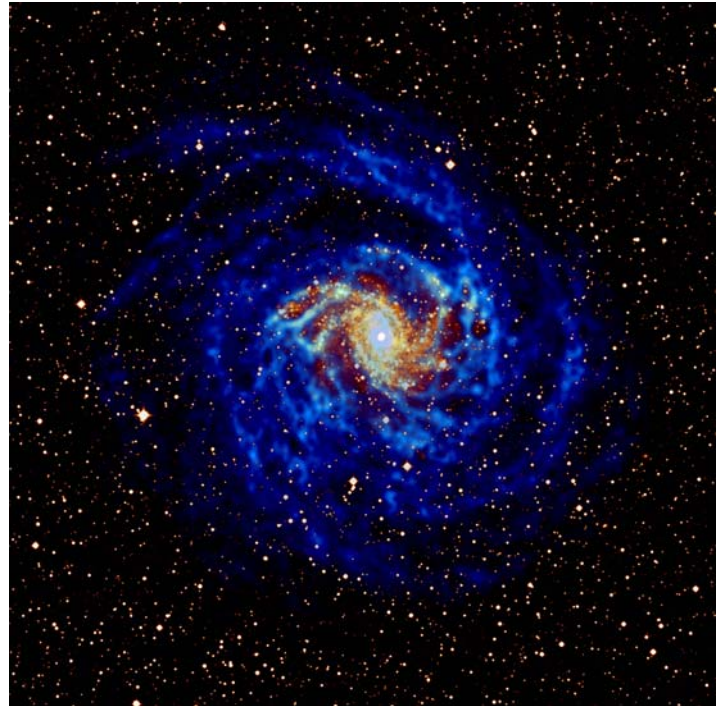
Attached: Photos from the O'Hare exhibit



**JUPITER**  
**35 light-minutes**

Normally a mix of brown and red hues, this image of Jupiter made in near-infrared light has been color-coded to show cloud height, from high altitude (white) through mid-range (blue) to low altitude (red). The so-called Great Red Spot and its neighbor Red Spot Junior top out at the highest altitudes, therefore appearing mainly as white in this image. Observers used the Gemini North telescope in Hawaii to capture this view.

Photo - Travis Rector (U. Alaska Anchorage), Chad Trujillo and the Gemini Altair Team, NOAO / AURA / NSF.



**THE FIREWORKS GALAXY**  
**18 million light-years**

The Fireworks Galaxy is a nearby spiral galaxy located near the border between the constellations Cepheus (the king) and Cygnus (the swan). It is mostly obscured by interstellar matter from the Milky Way Galaxy. In this dual image, orange depicts optical data from the Digital Sky Survey, while the blue shows neutral hydrogen as obtained with the Westerbork Synthesis Radio Telescope.

Photo - R. Boomsma, T. Oosterloo, F. Fraternali, R. Sancisi, M.J. van der Hulst



A passenger pauses at one of the 50 images of astronomical phenomena at O'Hare International Airport, located in the pedestrian walkway tunnel near the CTA Blue Line train station. The Adler Planetarium and the Chicago Department of Aviation have partnered to host the new photo exhibit, From Earth to the Universe, which will be on display through December 31.

Photo - Chicago Dept. of Aviation