

Toms River planetarium reopens after 10 months with program for families, kids

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TOMS RIVER — The Novins Planetarium at Ocean County College reopens its doors this evening with a "storytelling under the stars" program for families and young children, after remaining closed for ten months.

The program features a mix of space-related stories read live under the planetarium sky, with images projected among the stars, according to a prepared statement from the planetarium.

Pajama Night is one of several special events put together by the planetarium's director, Gloria Villalobos, as part of the college's Reach for the Stars fundraising campaign to renovate and revitalize the Novins Planetarium.

"I'm absolutely thrilled that we're able to offer these programs while we're raising the funds to refurbish the theater," said Villalobos, "Pajama Night is a fun event for both the staff and visitors and a great way to kick things off."

Pajama Night is led by planetarium lecturer and schoolteacher, Teresa St. Angelo. "I just love seeing the excitement and enthusiasm in the children," she said. "It's an amazing atmosphere where they make themselves comfortable curled up in a chair or with their parents, or stretched out on the floor with their favorite pillow and teddy bear."

The program will run several times during the summer, with a different mix of stories each time.

Upcoming Pajama Night events are June 16, June 30 and July 28 and August 25, all starting at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6 per person and can be purchased in advance at the planetarium. For information, call (732) 255-0400 ext 2111.

A portion of all ticket sales will be dedicated to Ocean County College's Reach for the Stars fundraising campaign to benefit the planetarium.

Staff report

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Congratulations and thank you for all that had a part in making sure the Planetarium reopened. Lets keep up the good work and remember teamwork. I look forward to bringing my three children there shortly.

Posted by: wjgrenci on Sat Jun 16, 2007 2:47 pm

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