Fleischmann Planetarium celebrates 50 years

Since the Fleischmann Planetarium and Science Center opened on the University of Nevada, Reno campus in 1963, it has become a national landmark, a continuing source of knowledge about astronomy and a place of nostalgia for people in the community.

The Planetarium celebrated its 50th anniversary in November. It has served about half-a-million children through field trips and has served an estimated 2 million public visitors, said Dan Ruby, associate director of the Planetarium.

“The Fleischmann Planetarium has been and continues to be an important resource at the University of Nevada, Reno,” said University President Marc Johnson. “It reflects the goals of the University through its research, education and outreach to the community.”

The Planetarium has served 30,000 to 60,000 visitors annually throughout the past 50 years, including more than 10,000 K-12 students.

“It’s remarkably very similar to the way it was in 1963,” Ruby said. “We have daily star shows for the public, we offer a variety of field trips for students in grades K-12, people can wander around the exhibits in the building and we have friendly staff to answer questions.”

The Planetarium was originally called the Fleischmann Atmospherium-Planetarium and was constructed as a publicly accessible research facility for the Desert Research Institute.

“It never really matured as a center for atmospherics, but the astronomy aspect really took off,” Ruby said. “Beyond being a place to learn about planets, we want to return to those roots and be a place where we are actively engaged in research.”

The Planetarium is open daily. For more information, please visit planetarium.unr.edu or call (775) 784-4812.

—Annie Conway, Class of 2015

Cooperative Extension helps Latino students succeed

Leticia Servin, Latino outreach coordinator for University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, works with a family in Carson City.

“Because of the language barrier and the necessity of work, parents have had a hard time connecting with someone at the high school,” Servin says.

During her visits and work with the families over the summer, Servin showed parents several tools to help them understand the high school system and help their students. She taught them how to use “Power School,” a system for parents to track their children’s work daily online. She also showed them the school calendar and taught them how to follow it, and provided Spanish translations of important written information and school handouts.

Servin also spent time helping the parents organize things necessary for school, such as creating a portfolio of important papers necessary for scholarships, grants and employment. She helped them find resources available for low-income families, such as places to look for insurance and other needs.

— Tiffany Kozsan ’12
SUMMER ON CAMPUS: ACTIVITIES, CAMPS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The University of Nevada, Reno strives to leverage the knowledge, resources and talent on campus for the advancement of the community. The University hosts or co-sponsors a wide variety of summer youth camp programs and other family-centered activities to promote a culture of cooperation and connection. Here’s a list of the top northern Nevada summer camps and activities for children, adults and families.

ARTOWN, July 1 to Aug. 1, a month-long celebration of the arts in Reno, including programs on campus. Call (775) 322-1538 or visit www.renoartown.com.

CHILD AND FAMILY RESEARCH CENTER DAY CAMP, June 9 to Aug. 8, for children ages 5-10. Call (775) 784-6762 or visit www.unr.edu/education/centers/cfrc.

DAVIDSON THINK SUMMER INSTITUTE, July 12 to Aug. 2, for exceptionally gifted students age 13-16. Call (775) 852-3483 or visit www.davidsongifted.org.

DEAN’S FUTURE SCHOLARS, June 23 to Aug. 2, an academic outreach program to encourage low-income, diverse and first-generation students to attend college. Contact Mariluz Garcia, (775) 784-4237 or mcgarca@washoeschools.net, or visit www.unr.edu/education/centers/dfs.

ENGINEERING SUMMER CAMPS, various sessions June 16 to July 25 for students age 12-18. Call (775) 784-6925, email ebozsik@unr.edu or visit www.unr.edu/engineering.

FLEISCHMANN PLANETARIUM AND SCIENCE CENTER, programs and exhibits for all ages, call (775) 784-4812 or visit www.planetarium.unr.nevada.edu.

GIRLS MATH AND TECHNOLOGY CAMP, July 13-18, for girls entering grades 7 and 8. Visit www.unr.edu/girls-math-camp.

KIDS UNIVERSITY, June 16 to Aug. 1, an educational day camp for children entering grades 2-8. Registration begins March 22. Call Extended Studies, (775) 784-4062 or visit http://kidsu.unr.edu/.

MOVIES AT THE JOE, dates vary. Call the Joe Crowley Student Union, (775) 784-6505, or visit www.unr.edu/studentunion.

NEVADA BOYS STATE, June 22-28, a leadership and citizenship training program for qualified high school juniors. Call (888) 646-6594, email info@nevadaboysstate.org or visit www.nevadaboysstate.org.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE (OLLI), educational experiences for adults 50 and over. Call (775) 784-8053, email olli@unr.edu or visit www.ooli.unr.edu.

READING AND WRITING TUTORING at the E.L. Cord Foundation Center for Learning and Literacy for elementary students in first grade and up. Call (775) 784-4951 or visit www.unr.edu/dl/tutoring.

SMALLWOOD MULTIMEDIA BOOT CAMP, June 16-26, rigorous instruction by University faculty and staff using multimedia equipment and software in the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center @One Department for a select group of northern Nevada high school students entering their senior year. Following the camp, students will continue to have access to the Knowledge Center’s facilities and staff during their senior year of high school. Call Jacqueline Grant, (775) 682-5669 or jackieg@unr.edu, or visit http://imedia.unr.edu/knowledge_center/smallwood.

PACK PICNICS ON THE QUAD, Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m., July 9 through Aug. 13, free and family friendly, co-sponsored by the Nevada Alumni Association and Summer Session. Call (775) 784-4652 or visit www.summersession.unr.edu.

SUMMER OF DISCOVERY, June 22-27, one-week camp for Nevada high school students grades 8-10 with an interest in science. Call the High Sierra Area Health Education Center at (775) 682-5744, email Krystal Turgiss, krystalt@medicine.nevada.edu or visit www.highsierrahec.org.

UPWARD BOUND, a free college preparatory program for qualified students. Call (775) 784-4978 or visit www.unr.edu/upward-bound.

WOLF PACK SPORTS CAMPS, including football, baseball, basketball, golf, soccer, softball and volleyball camps; call (775) 784-4062 or visit www.unr.edu/sportsamps.

SUMMER CAMPS AT LAKE TAHOE

THE NEVADA 4-H CAMP is owned and operated by the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. The camp sits on 32 shoreline acres on the south shore of Lake Tahoe and is available for rental year round. Contact the Nevada 4-H Camp at (775) 588-6943 or visit www.unr.edu/4H/camp.

58TH ANNUAL LAKE TAHOE MUSIC CAMP, for musicians entering grades 8-12, dates available at www.unr.edu/lmtc. Contact Chris Money at Extended Studies, (775) 784-4046 or cmoney@unr.edu.

NEVADA GIRLS STATE, June 29 to July 5, leadership and citizenship training program for qualified high school juniors. Contact Daela Gibson at (775) 224-0073 or nevadagirlsstate@gmail.com, or visit www.nevadagirlsstate.net.

4-H YOUTH EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP CAMPS, various dates in July and August. Call the University of Nevada 4-H Program Office at (775) 784-6206 or visit www.unr.edu/4H.

Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas