

Far Out: Our Solar System – Curator's Statement



Far Out: Our Solar System features artwork, artifacts and activities that explore our neighborhood section of the Milky Way, which is found in the vast expanding universe. Starting with our star, the sun, and moving outward toward each of the eight known planets, the exhibit showcases the science, technology, dreams and vision that make up our living solar system.

My interest in space started on July 20, 1969, when I was 4 1/2 years old. I vividly remember sitting in my grandparents' living room and watching their television as Apollo 11 landed the first two people on the moon, Mission Commander Neil Armstrong and Lunar Module Pilot Buzz Aldrin. My grandfather was so excited and proudly told me that he hoped I would go to the moon someday. That fueled my imagination as a boy growing up with science fiction books and movies.

Though I will not make it to the moon, I do track the International Space Station daily with the help of an iPhone app called GoISSWatch. The app wakes me up early some mornings, so I may step outside in the dark and watch the space station orbit 262 miles overhead. It is a small, shiny twinkle that races across the morning sky. I find it exhilarating that fellow humans are inside the space station looking down on all of us in order to learn more about our Earth and our solar system.

Welcome to the exhibition. Now go explore, create and discover our solar system and your place in it!

Jeffory Morris
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