



*Explore the stars
from a cowboy's
point of view!*

Running time: 37:00
Grade level: 4-12 and
general public audiences



The Cowboy Astronomer is a skillfully woven tapestry of star tales and Native American legends, combined with constellation identification, star-hopping, and astronomy tidbits — all told from the unique viewpoint of a cowboy astronomer who has traveled the world plying his trade and learning the sky along the way.

The show begins with the cowboy's reminiscences of boyhood experiences on a cattle ranch. There he learned about Polaris, the North Star from a wily old ranch hand. He also learns the story of how the seven Indian maidens became the Pleiades — running from the grizzliest bear they'd ever seen — and how Devil's Tower got created in the process.



We hear the voice of a Native American storyteller recounting the legend of how Fisher — also known as the Big Dipper — got into the sky. The cowboy regales the audience with a wide range of other star tales, explaining along the way the processes of star birth and star death, and how stars' temperatures and colors are related. Throughout the show, he uses examples from many different cultures to identify familiar celestial objects and constellations, and demonstrate how humans have studied the sky throughout time.



The show closes with a touching tribute to a husband and wife team of astronomers who both studied the night sky and hoped to find their place among the stars. In the last scene, the cowboy astronomer invites everyone to enjoy the sublime beauty of the night sky and find their own place in the universe.

There's never been a program like *The Cowboy Astronomer*. It's a fresh new perspective in the planetarium medium; a unique, different, and thoroughly entertaining show unlike anything you've seen or heard before. It'll make your audiences laugh, it'll tug at their heart strings — all the while teaching about the universe and humanity's relationship with the stars.



Narrated by Baxter Black
Written by Carolyn Collins Petersen
Produced by Mark C. Petersen
Original artwork by Tim W. Kuzniar

The Cowboy Astronomer is an original work
commissioned in 1993 by the Campbell County School District
for the Sage Valley Junior High School Planetarium
of Gillette, Wyoming.





Science Education Content

The educational focus of the show is to present basic sky lore and astronomy information to a general audience from a unique viewpoint. A set of multicultural and multidisciplinary themes are woven throughout the program. These ideas help relate the information presented in the show to the lives of students, families, and the general public.

Show content is relevant in the following subject areas:

Earth and Space Sciences:

- Objects in the sky: stars, constellations, the Orion Nebula, the Andromeda Galaxy, the Pleiades star cluster, the Crab Nebula supernova, the explosion of Supernova 1987a, the Cygnus X-1 black hole, the highly variable Eta Carinae
- Changes in the sky: diurnal motion of the stars; seasonal changes in the sky
- The Orion Nebula, Betelgeuse, the Crab Nebula supernova, Supernova 1987a, Eta Carinae

Physical Science:

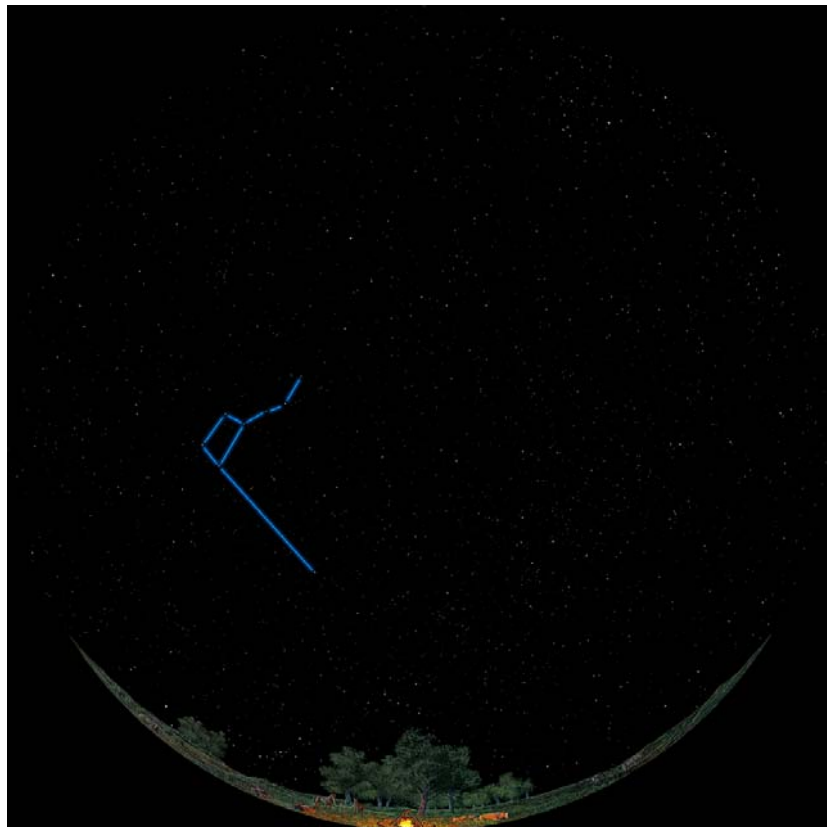
- Properties of stars

History of Science/Science Inquiry:

- Historical and cultural perspectives on astronomy: star legends of different cultures and countries, including Native American, Germany, ancient Arabic, Polynesian, and Greek tales, mainstream American, British poetry related to astronomy
- Astronomy as an enjoyable hobby or profession

This show adheres to principles put forth in the National Academy of Sciences' Education Standards published in 1996. For more details, visit the NAS Standards Web site at: <http://books.nap.edu/html/nse/html/index.html>.

Using the Big Dipper and Polaris to keep track of time, out on the wide open prairie...

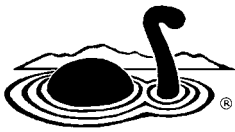


... just one of the ~65,000 dome master frames in this show.



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Revised 10 February 2010



FULLDOME SHOW PRICING

We make Loch Ness Productions shows available in the sizes required by the various projector systems they will run on. For pricing purposes, there are four general size categories, **SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE,** and **X-LARGE.** Contact us for recommendations to help determine which size is right for you.

Each show includes a performance license, which basically provides you with the permission you need to present the show to the public. The license period is 50 years — for all practical purposes, unlimited time. You can read the details on our Web site, so you'll know in advance what the license terms are.

Show Title (Product Code ###)	Product Code	MOVIE SIZE	For systems projecting circles that are:	Price
HUBBLE Vision 2 (HV2) Larry Cat In Space (LCS) MAGELLAN: Report From Venus (MRV)	###-FS	SMALL	smaller than 1300 pixels	\$1595
	###-FM	MEDIUM	1300 to 2000 pixels (or prewarped)	\$2195
	###-FL	LARGE	larger than 2000 pixels	\$3095
	###-FX	X-LARGE	sliced* for multiple projectors	\$4095
Season of Light (SOL)	###-FS	SMALL	smaller than 1300 pixels	\$1895
	###-FM	MEDIUM	1300 to 2000 pixels (or prewarped)	\$2495
	###-FL	LARGE	larger than 2000 pixels	\$3395
	###-FX	X-LARGE	sliced* for multiple projectors	\$4395
Light Years From Andromeda (LYA) MarsQuest (MQ) Oceans In Space (OIS) Seasonal STARGAZING (SSG) Sky Quest (SQ) The Cowboy Astronomer (TCA) The Voyager Encounters (TVE)	###-FS	SMALL	smaller than 1300 pixels	\$1995
	###-FM	MEDIUM	1300 to 2000 pixels (or prewarped)	\$2595
	###-FL	LARGE	larger than 2000 pixels	\$3495
	###-FX	X-LARGE	sliced* for multiple projectors	\$4495

***About slicing:** Multi-projector edge-blended systems require pre-slicing of a show's images into the individual channels needed for each projector. We can slice for most standard configurations. But some theaters may have non-standard configurations, or require the use of proprietary software to slice. In those cases, we'll need to contract with your system provider for some custom encoding. Contact us about costs.

Multiple Copies of Movies...

Ordinarily, the shows we distribute are licensed for installation on a single playback system and/or site. But maybe you need multiple copies of your movies because your institution operates two or more fulldome systems. Or let's say you already have large and sliced video movie files, and then get an additional portable fulldome system and need smaller movies to run on it. For these situations, you'll need to contact us about extending the license from the first show to cover additional installations. Then, buy the appropriate number and size of Additional Movie Files you need, at the discounted prices we offer in the table to the right.

ADDITIONAL MOVIE FILES			
Product Code	MOVIE SIZE	For systems projecting circles:	Price
VMA-S	SMALL	smaller than 1300 pixels	\$1000
VMA-M	MEDIUM	1300 to 2000 pixels (or prewarped)	\$1600
VMA-L	LARGE	larger than 2000 pixels	\$2500
VMA-X	X-LARGE	sliced for multiple projectors	\$3500

Projector/Movie Upgrades...

Let's say you already have our fulldome movies at a small size, but then choose to upgrade to a higher resolution projector system and need to get new, larger movies. You retire your lower-resolution system and no longer run the movies installed on it. For this situation, you'll need to contact us about transferring the license you received with your first show to cover your new installation. Then, simply buy the appropriate size video you need, at the discounted prices we offer in the Video Movie Upgrades table.

VIDEO MOVIE UPGRADES			
Product Code	MOVIE SIZE	For systems projecting circles:	Price
VMU-S	SMALL	smaller than 1300 pixels	\$500
VMU-M	MEDIUM	1300 to 2000 pixels (or prewarped)	\$800
VMU-L	LARGE	larger than 2000 pixels	\$1250
VMU-X	X-LARGE	sliced for multiple projectors	\$1750

The details...

Our fulldome shows are made in fisheye circle form, and ship as ready-to-play *movies*, with audio and video files encoded/sliced/prewarped in formats and resolutions compatible with today's projector systems. **We do not ship dome masters.** We record the files onto data DVDs, USB Flash or external drives.

What we send...

In addition to the show, we also provide the show's fulldome "trailer"; still images that can be used for advertising and promotion; the license agreement, and a reference book in PDF form, containing the show script, production notes, resources, acknowledgements, and additional information.

Installation...

While it may be possible to play videos directly from our distribution media, we expect you'll copy the files onto your fulldome system for optimum performance. We provide pre-written play scripts for some systems; others will simply edit button scripts or enter the necessary system commands to load and play the movies.