

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Former pilot of Space Shuttle *Columbia* to visit Salt Lake City

Clark Planetarium and University of Utah partner to offer special public presentation

SALT LAKE CITY (Oct. 1, 2009) – As the need grows for developing a strong scientific base for the Salt Lake community, [Clark Planetarium](#) and the [University of Utah Department of Physics and Astronomy](#) are partnering to bring retired astronaut Lt. Duane G. “Digger” Carey to the planetarium for an inspiring presentation on the importance of America’s space exploration and research programs.

[Lt. Carey](#) will speak at Clark Planetarium at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 in the ATK IMAX Theatre, with a screening of the film, *Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3D* immediately following.

With his experience as a pilot aboard the STS-109 *Columbia*, which serviced the [Hubble Space Telescope](#), Carey is able to provide insights into the inner workings of [NASA's](#) space and science programs. He also shares a strong desire to educate and influence young people to pursue education and careers in the science and technical field, which contributes to both the university and planetarium’s missions.

“We hope that by providing opportunities for the public to be a part of some of the greatest adventures of science and technology that have occurred in the history of mankind, our youth will be inspired to consider the role of science in the future of our society,” explained Dave Kieda, Chairman of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Utah.

[Clark Planetarium](#) also works to educate area residents about the importance of space and science. Planetarium programs service over 100,000 Utah children each year, providing unique learning opportunities for students, teachers and families. “We share the desire with the University of Utah to educate and excite the youth in our community to take interest in space and science. Working together to bring Lt. Carey to Clark Planetarium will provide audiences the opportunity to hear first-hand accounts of what it is like to explore outer space,” said planetarium Director, Seth Jarvis.

Tickets will be available to the public beginning October 1, 2009 for just \$1 each. They can be purchased at www.clarkplanetarium.org or at the ticket counter of Clark Planetarium.

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SIDEBAR:

About Clark Planetarium

[Clark Planetarium's](#) mission is to create and present stimulating educational programs that effectively share astronomy and space exploration information with Salt Lake County residents, Utah students, educators and families, and visitors from around the country and the world.

About University of Utah Dept. of Physics and Astronomy

The [University of Utah Department of Physics and Astronomy's](#) mission is to spark a public interest in science and technology, especially for young students.

About Lt. Duane “Digger” Carey (Lieutenant Colonel, USAF Retired) NASA astronaut (former)

[Lt. Carey](#) was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in April 1996. He reported to the NASA Johnson Space Center in August 1996. Having completed two years of training and evaluation, he qualified for flight assignment as a pilot. Carey was initially assigned technical duties in the Astronaut Office Spacecraft Systems/Operations Branch and later on served as a Shuttle CAPCOM in Mission Control. In 2002 he served as pilot on STS-109. He left NASA in 2004 to pursue other interests. Carey and his wife Cheryl are currently engaged in educating the public about the importance of America's exploration and research programs. They have traveled over 300,000 miles on motorcycles and have ridden through and camped in 52 states and provinces, Mexico and the Republic of Korea.

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