STORIES IN STARS

1. OVERVIEW DESCRIPTION
   A. Our program entitled Stories in the Stars utilizes a Star Lab portable planetarium system to project images of constellations inside a dome for participants. Participants engage with the constellation images described by an educator through the stories and legends they are associated with across cultures as well as scientific information about stars and space objects. Once outside of the dome, participants are encouraged to create their own constellations on star maps with a view from an exoplanet. Participants are also asked to think of a legend or story that might be associated with their “new constellation” in order to connect them with peoples of ancient history on Earth.

   B. Universe of Learning Resources
      i. Eyes on Exoplanets
      ii. Universe Discovery Guides
      iii. Afterschool Universe

2. PROGRAM DETAILS
   Please indicate the following information regarding your program model.

   A. Goals
      i. To increase participant interest in astronomy concepts
      ii. To develop greater student aptitude in astronomy concepts taught in the traditional school classroom
      iii. To stimulate student interest in STEM careers
      iv. To expose children to the concept of museums, universities and NASA as resources for all citizens to explore
      v. Provide enrichment for children traditionally underserved in STEM education

   B. Target Audience
      i. Children ages 6-12 living in rural and underserved areas
      ii. Library systems
      iii. Summer day camps

   C. Timeline or Schedule of Events
      i. January – March:
1. Program research and development
2. Marketing and promotions
3. Initial group scheduling

ii. April – May
1. Program Scripting
2. Material Acquisition
3. Marketing continues
4. Scheduling continues
5. Pre-show assessments

iii. June – September
1. Program Delivery
2. Marketing and scheduling continues
3. Summative evaluation

iv. October
1. Program reflection
2. Final reports

3. PROGRAM MODEL

Provide a write-up of all activities, planning, and other resources included in your program model. This write-up should be written so that a museum or other informal learning institution can take what you have written, and implement their own version of your program model. Things to consider (This list is intended for inspiration, and should not be considered prescriptive. Not all items are required, or will be relevant to your program model; additional items may be needed to properly convey your model):

- **Staffing:** Museum education staff collaborated with UoL staff in order to identify resources that would benefit a Star Lab based program to last approximately 1 hour with students of ages 6-12. Research on the cultural meanings and significance of constellations was conducted to broaden the information available to participants. This same museum staff was responsible for developing hands on activities to take place in conjunction with the dome presentation as well as presenting the programs.

- **Activity outline:** The Stories in the Stars program is now included as part of the STEMS Outreach program at The Schiele Museum. This is a “mobile museum” program that takes our educational programming to schools, libraries, and camps upon request. Please find attached a detailed program outline.

- **Graphics or other needed imagery:** This program requires access to a portable planetarium system or on-site planetarium and is well-suited to be adapted for particular constellation or cultures of interest. Presenters will need to have access to constellation imagery.

- **Materials:**
i. Star Lab system or Planetarium access
ii. Filters or programming that allows for the viewing of constellations
iii. Access to cultural information of constellations of interest
iv. Exoplanet star maps for the hands-on activity