



‘IMILOA
Astronomy Center of Hawai'i

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Follow the “Mystery of the Christmas Star” *Popular Holiday Show Returns to Imiloa*

Hilo, Hawai'i – Trace the footsteps of ancient Babylonian astronomers at 'Imiloa Astronomy Center when the popular holiday planetarium show *Mystery of the Christmas Star* returns for a limited run playing Friday nights, starting Friday December 2 to December 30, 2011 at 7:00pm. There will be no show available December 16.

Since first shown at the Center in December 2006, this show has become a tradition during the holiday season at 'Imiloa, for returning members and visitors, as well as first time patrons. The Planetarium show poses interesting questions and observations about cosmic events that may have prompted the vision of the bright star in the skies long ago.

Mystery of the Christmas Star takes audiences on a journey back 2000 years to Bethlehem to discover a possible scientific explanation for the star the wise men followed to find the baby Jesus. This program investigates recorded sightings of significant astronomical events during the time of the birth of Christ. Investigators will see which of these signs in the sky could have been remarkable enough to cause the wise men to travel across the desert from Babylon just to see a newborn King. This modern retelling of the Christmas story is sure to charm and captivate audiences of all ages.

“They go back in time mapping out these sequential recorded events from the Babylonian astrological traditions and theorize the possible true nature of the ‘Christmas Star’,” notes Shawn Laatsch, 'Imiloa Astronomy Center's planetarium manager.

This show will play every Friday night at 7:00 pm. Tickets may be pre-purchased at the 'Imiloa front desk or by phone, using Visa or MasterCard, by calling (808) 969-9703

during regular business hours. Tickets will also be available prior to the show. Tickets are non-refundable.

‘Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai‘i will be closed Christmas Day (December 25) and on New Year’s Day, Jan. 1, 2012. Normal opening hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The ‘Imiloa Museum Store, offers a wide range of items perfect for the holidays and fun and educational items for the Christmas stocking!

‘Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai‘i is located at 600 ‘Imiloa Place in Hilo, off Komohana and Nowelo Streets at the UH Hilo Science and Technology Park. For more information, go to www.imiloahawaii.org, or call (808) 969-9703.



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