



The Franklin Institute  
Science Museum



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### VIEW THE NIGHT SKY FROM FRANKLIN INSTITUTE'S ROOFTOP OBSERVATORY *Come Early – Stay Late!*

**Philadelphia, PA** --May 7, 2007 – Attention all star gazers -- summer nights in the city have never looked so good! View the night sky from the best vantage point in town -- The Joel N. Bloom Observatory at The Franklin Institute. Watch the moon and stars rise above the Philadelphia skyline or try to find the newly discovered planet, Gliese 581-C, through state-of-the-art telescopes.....or just sit back and enjoy the panoramic view from the rooftop.

Share the excitement of seeing Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and beyond with friends and family (children welcome) beginning **May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM**. Then, mark your star calendars to return the *second Thursday of each month* throughout the summer.

Located on the roof of The Franklin Institute, the newly refurbished **Joel N. Bloom Observatory** is equipped with a giant 10” Zeiss Refractor telescope and four 8” Meade Reflectors. Chief Astronomer, **Derrick Pitts**, or another member of TFI’s Astronomy team will be on hand from 7:30-11:00PM each of the following Thursday evenings below to help guide you through the galaxies. Admission is \$5.00.

- **May 10** - Venus, Saturn, Jupiter, and the globular cluster in Hercules
- **June 14** - Jupiter, Ring Nebula in Lyra, and the double Star in Cygnus
- **July 12** - Jupiter, Double Star in Lyra, and the double star in the Big Dipper
- **August 9** - Jupiter, and the North American Nebula in Cygnus
- **September 13** - Uranus, Andromeda galaxy, and the double cluster in Perseus

Discover all aspects of science and technology at The Franklin Institute: physics in Sir Isaac’s Loft: Where Art and Physics Collide, astronomy in Space Command, and anatomy at The Giant Heart: A Healthy Interactive Experience. Visitors can explore science and technology in a hands-on manner that will not only educate but stimulate and inspire as well. For more information please visit [www.fi.edu](http://www.fi.edu) or call 215-448-1200.