



Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society Conference 2020



**“Reaching Beyond the Stars”
Wednesday-Saturday, April 22-25, 2020**

Hosted by the Cradle of Aviation Museum in Garden City, NY

Dear MAPS Member,

The staff of the Jet Blue Sky Theater Planetarium at The Cradle of Aviation would like to invite you to join us from April 22 – 25, 2020 for the MAPS 2020 conference. The gathering, as always, is a great time for MAPS Members to re-connect, brainstorm ideas for education programming, and share with each other all of the wonderful things that we are doing at our home planetariums!

The Cradle is excited to, once again, be hosting the annual MAPS conference. Long Island has played an integral part in air and space exploration, from the first trans-Atlantic flight to the Apollo Lunar Modules. It is our mission to preserve our history in order to inspire future generations. During the conference, we hope that you are able to explore our collections and/or attend the Apollo 13 50th Anniversary celebration on April 23rd.

The theme of this year’s conference is “*Reaching Beyond the Stars*”. Planetariums are known for showing people the farthest reaches of the universe. Recently our scope has been growing to incorporate everything from what is too big and too far to what is too small or too slow. We hope that this theme encourages workshops, lessons, papers, posters, and panels that reflect the various topics and programs seen in planetariums. We hope that, in addition to attending our conference, you will consider submitting a proposal to present a talk, lesson, workshop, poster, or panel discussion.

Continuing a long-standing MAPS tradition, our annual banquet will be highlighted by the Margaret Noble Address. This year’s address will be given by Michael McConville from Spitz, Inc.

We are pleased to announce that, with the generous support of numerous sponsors, we will be able to maintain the low registration costs from past MAPS conferences. The full registration is \$150 if paid by April 1, and you can register by mail or online through the MAPS website (www.mapsplanetarium.org). We hope to see you all here on Long Island this coming April!

Kerri Kiker
Conference Host

&

Your MAPS Executive Board

Host Facility:

The Cradle of Aviation is a part of Museum Row in Nassau County. The Cradle's collection is housed in the hangers of historic Mitchel Field.

The Jet Blue Sky Theater Planetarium houses a 76-foot dome with unidirectional seating for up to 297 people. Around the room are six projectors from our original Global Immersions installation, however, we have upgraded to Digistar 6 servers and software. An additional insert projector is able to project square-frame (non-fulldome) slides, images, and video clips onto the dome. Our dome is also known as the Leroy R. & Rose W. Grumman Theater when it is showing giant screen films.



Our dome delivers a full suite of live & canned, digital & film programs, for school groups, scout troops, local community organizations, and the general public 6-7 days a week. In addition, we work with community partners to hold live concerts, movie screenings, and more over the course of the year.

Directions to the Cradle of Aviation Museum:

Cradle of Aviation Museum
Charles Lindbergh Boulevard
Garden City, NY 11550

The 2020 Margaret Noble Address:

Michael McConville, Spitz, Inc.



We are pleased to announce that Michael McConville will be our Margaret Noble Address speaker this year. Check back on the MAPS website as the conference approaches for more information about Michael's presentation.

Participate and Contribute:

There are four ways to participate in and contribute to the 2020 MAPS Conference:

Paper Talks are scheduled in 15-minute time slots. Talks allow the short presentation of any topic that lends itself to publication as a research or topical article. Presenters should allow time at the end for questions, and they may have hand-outs for the general group. These talks can involve a PowerPoint presentation, video and/or use of planetarium equipment and are sometimes presented as a **planetarium mini-lesson**.

Poster Presentations are displayed for most of the conference with time scheduled for authors to present material to interested delegates. Some subjects are better presented with posters or display boards, hand-outs, and one-to-one conversation.

Workshops are longer, 45 and 90 minute engaging sessions, scheduled concurrent with other workshops, when small groups explore specific subjects together with a leader. Workshops engage participants interactively and can include make-and-take activities, introductions to tools and methods, or explorations of specific topics and problem solving in planetarium development and operation. Vendor-conducted workshops are an option for sponsors in accord with sponsor guidelines.

Panel Discussions allow a delegate to organize several people to serve on a panel to address complex or controversial topics. Panel discussions are presented to the entire conference body and will entirely fit within a 30 minute time slot. Submit proposals only after confirming the members who will sit on the panel

Feel free to address any questions about the proposal of a presentation or the process to the MAPS Program Committee Chair at brian.koehler@mysticseaport.org.

Presenters are encouraged to submit their "Proposals to Present" online using a Google Form (link on www.mapsplanetarium.org). In addition, a PDF form for proposals will be available on the MAPS website for downloading and submission.

Please note that a 2-3 paragraph summary of your presentation must be sent electronically to the program committee by the start of the conference.

Conference attire:

In April, the Island typically sees temperatures in the low 60s during the day, dropping down to the low-40s evening. Meeting spaces will be climate-controlled but temperatures can vary wildly throughout the Museum. Layers are recommended. Conference attire is generally workday or summer casual. Many choose semi-formal / coat-and-tie dress for the banquet on Friday night.

Contacts and Important Deadlines:

Registration due by April 1, 2020

Online (using PayPal):

www.mapsplanetarium.org

**Register Online today!
It's quick, it's easy!**

Mail:

Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society
Attn: Talia Sepersky
1 Science Park
Boston, MA 02114

**If registering by mail, please be sure to
send your forms to Talia's attention.**

Proposals to Present: due by April 1, 2020

Please submit these with your conference registration.

THREE ways to submit a Proposal to Present:

Submit your proposal online: see link to the Google Forms at www.mapsplanetarium.org.

Download the "Proposal to Present" PDF at www.mapsplanetarium.org, fill it out, scan it, and send it to the MAPS Program Committee Chair: brian.koehler@mysticseaport.org.

Download the "Proposal to Present" PDF at www.mapsplanetarium.org, fill it out, and mail it to the MAPS Program Committee Chair:

Brian Koehler
Mystic Seaport Museum
75 Greenmanville Avenue
Mystic, CT 06355

Reserve hotel rooms by: April 1, 2020

Remember to ask for the MAPS rates when booking at either of the conference hotels:

Long Island Marriott
101 James Doolittle Boulevard
Uniondale, NY 11553
516-794-3800

LaQuinta Inn & Suites Garden City
821 Stewart Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530
516-705-9000

Mailing and Shipping Address for Conference Host:

Cradle of Aviation Museum
Charles Lindbergh Blvd
Garden City, NY 11530
Attn: Kerri Kiker

Preliminary 2020 MAPS Conference Schedule

Wednesday, April 22

Morning	Mini-LIPS workshop
Afternoon	Mini-LIPS concludes, Hotel check-in & Conference registration
Evening	Welcome Reception at the Cradle of Aviation Museum

Thursday, April 23

Morning	Delegate talks, Vendor Hall time
Afternoon	Lunch with invited speaker, Workshops, Vendor demonstrations, Poster presentations, Vendor Hall time
Evening	Option 1: Dinner on your own Option 2: "Apollo 13 50 th Anniversary Celebration" (separate ticket required)

Friday, April 24

Morning	Vendor talks, Vendor Hall time, Vendor demonstrations
Afternoon	Lunch with invited speaker, MAPS Business Meeting Delegate talks, Group photo
Evening	Cocktail Reception and Conference Banquet 2020 Margaret Noble Address by Michael McConville

Saturday, April 25

Morning	Delegate talks, Workshops
Afternoon	Lunch, Door Prizes, and Closing Remarks Optional Post-Conference Outing: TBD

Descriptions of invited speakers and other workshops will be posted on the MAPS website as information becomes available.