



## **MEDIA CONTACT**

Jenelle Codianne  
Director of Marketing and Public Relations  
386.255.0285 Ext. 320  
[jenelle@moas.org](mailto:jenelle@moas.org)

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## **A New Way of Showcasing Exhibitions at the Museum of Arts & Sciences Begins with *Unfolding the Universe: The James Webb Space Telescope***

(Daytona Beach, FL) As we move into the summer months, you will notice a change in the exhibition programming at the Museum of Arts & Sciences.

“As an institution, we will be focusing our energy on quality, not quantity, with a three seasonal approach,” said MOAS Executive Director, Tabitha Schmidt. “The Museum team will be working to create conversations and content around a bigger idea throughout the campus.”

Beginning in May, Seth Mayo, MOAS Curator of Science will debut *Unfolding the Universe: The James Webb Space Telescope*, presented by the Simpkins Family Foundation. The Museum will be adding interactive elements and more technology to bring the experience to life.

The fall exhibition will create new dialogue and community interaction with the opening of *World War II: Stories from the American Experience* on Saturday, October 14, 2023. This exhibit will explore the three theaters of operation: Europe, the Pacific, and the Home Front through over 100 artifacts and images from the collection of local historian, Ryan Lowry. The *World War II* exhibit will be open through January 24, 2024.

This strategic change in the Museum's presentation of exhibitions is just the start of many exciting things to come on the campus of the Museum of Arts & Sciences

## Unfolding the Universe: The James Webb Space Telescope

Referred to as the “premier observatory of the next decade” the James Webb Space Telescope was launched into space on December 25, 2021, and serves thousands of astronomers worldwide by studying every phase in the history of our universe.

On Saturday, May 20, 2023, the Museum will open the new *Unfolding the Universe: The James Webb Space Telescope* exhibition, presented by the Simpkins Family Foundation, that will highlight the most mesmerizing imagery captured by Webb thus far, explore its innovative technology, and provide a unique perspective of various celestial objects featured in the imagery.

A multinational, collaborative effort led by NASA, the European Space Agency, and the Canadian Space Agency, is the culmination of several decades of work which gave us the James Webb Space Telescope, an instrument with a reflective surface nearly three times the size of the Hubble Space Telescope. With certain capabilities beyond many Earth-based observatories, Webb will allow us to see farther into the early parts of the universe than any of its telescopic predecessors.

“The James Webb Space Telescope is opening our eyes to the universe like never before” remarked MOAS Curator of Science, Seth Mayo. “The observing power and unique vantage point of Webb is already providing us with significant insights of the fundamental nature of our universe, which will have impacts for generations to come. We cannot wait to share the wonder of exploration and discovery through the beautiful imagery of this space based observatory in our exhibition.”

*Unfolding the Universe: The James Webb Space Telescope* will be open at the Museum of Arts & Sciences from May 20, 2023, through October 1, 2023. Entry to the exhibition is included with paid Museum admission. A variety of tours, programs, and events will be offered throughout the run of the exhibition.

### Upcoming *Unfolding the Universe* Programs at the Museum of Arts & Sciences

Friday, May 19, 2023

10:00am–5:00pm

#### **MOAS Member-Only Exhibition Preview**

As a member of the Museum of Arts & Sciences, you will have one of the first opportunities to view the new *Unfolding the Universe: The James Webb Space Telescope* exhibition before it opens to the public.

Free for MOAS members only.

Saturday, May 20, 2023

2:00pm-3:00pm

**Cosmic Talk and Walk | *Unfolding the Universe***

Take a cosmic stroll throughout the new *Unfolding the Universe* exhibition with MOAS Curator of Science, Seth Mayo, as he discusses the mesmerizing imagery captured by NASA.

Free for MOAS members or with paid museum admission.

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

5:30pm-7:30pm

**MOAS After Hours: In Partnership with The Locals Mix**

Exclusive after-hours access to the Museum's galleries, happy hour drink specials with Fun Coast Bartending, live music, and a tour of the new *Unfolding the Universe: The James Webb Space Telescope* exhibition with MOAS Curator of Science, Seth Mayo.

Free for MOAS members, \$5.00 for non-members.

Thursday, May 25, 2023

3:00pm-4:00pm

**Cosmic Talk and Walk | *Unfolding the Universe***

Take a cosmic stroll throughout the new *Unfolding the Universe* exhibition with MOAS Curator of Science, Seth Mayo, as he discusses the mesmerizing imagery captured by NASA.

Free for MOAS members or with paid museum admission.

Thursday, June 8, 2023

3:00pm-4:00pm

**Cosmic Talk and Walk | *Unfolding the Universe***

Take a cosmic stroll throughout the new *Unfolding the Universe* exhibition with MOAS Curator of Science, Seth Mayo, as he discusses the mesmerizing imagery captured by NASA.

Free for MOAS members or with paid museum admission.

Saturday, June 17, 2023

2:00pm-3:00pm

**Cosmic Talk and Walk | *Unfolding the Universe***

Take a cosmic stroll throughout the new *Unfolding the Universe* exhibition with MOAS Curator of Science, Seth Mayo, as he discusses the mesmerizing imagery captured by NASA.

Free for MOAS members or with paid museum admission.

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

12:00pm-1:30pm

**Lunch and Learn: *Unfolding the Universe with the James Webb Space Telescope***

Lunch at the Museum followed by a tour with MOAS Curator of Astronomy, Seth Mayo, of the amazing images produced by the James Webb Space Telescope. Advanced registration is required.

MOAS Member Admission: Lecture is free plus \$10.00 boxed lunch.

Non-Member Admission: Lecture is \$10.00 plus \$10.00 boxed lunch.

Additional tours and events to be announced.

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**About the Museum of Arts & Sciences** - The Museum of Arts & Sciences (MOAS) is the primary **art, science and history museum in Central Florida**. The area's largest museum, MOAS is nationally accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is a Smithsonian Institution Affiliate. Located on a 90-acre Florida nature preserve, the 100,000 square foot facility is host to over 30,000 objects including the Dow Gallery of American Art, one of the finest collections of American art in the Southeast, the Schulte Gallery of Chinese Art, the Bouchelle Collection and Gallery of Decorative Arts, the largest and most comprehensive collection in the South, the Gillespy Gallery of Sub-Saharan African artifacts, the Cuban Foundation Museum showcasing one of the most significant collections of Cuban paintings in the United States, the Prehistory of Florida gallery featuring Florida's Giant Ground Sloth skeleton and the Root Family Museum displaying restored railroad cars, antique automobiles and the largest collection of Coca-Cola® memorabilia in Florida. The Helene B. Roberson Visible Storage Building exhibits thousands of objects from many donors which are owned by the Museum, while the Linda and Williams Children's Museum presents an interactive experience for children. The Lowell and Nancy Lohman Family Planetarium and the Cici and Hyatt Brown Museum of Art showcasing the largest collection of Florida-based art in the world, rounds out areas to explore inside the Museum of Arts & Sciences.

Museum Hours are 10am-5pm (Monday-Saturday) and 11am-5pm (Sunday). Museum of Arts & Sciences admission is \$12.95 adults; \$6.95 children 6-17; \$10.95 seniors and students; members and children 5 and under are free. Daily planetarium shows and weekly laser shows. Museum of Arts & Sciences admission includes one planetarium show. Cici and Hyatt Brown Museum of Art admission is \$10.95 adults; \$4.95 children 6-17; \$8.95 seniors and students; members and children 5 and under are free. Combo ticket admission is \$18.95 adults; \$9.95 children 6-17; \$16.95 seniors and students; members and children 5 and under are free. Combo ticket admission includes on planetarium show. Additional planetarium shows are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children ages 17 and under. Parking is free. Admission is FREE for Volusia County residents the first Tuesday of each month (does not include planetarium shows). MOAS is fully accessible to the handicapped. MOAS is located at 352 S. Nova Road, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114. For more information call 386.255.0285 or visit the website [www.moas.org](http://www.moas.org).

*MOAS is a not-for-profit educational institution founded in 1955 and chartered by the State of Florida in 1962. The Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. Programs sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the County of Volusia.*

*Exhibits and dates subject to change.*