



DISCOVERER OF DARK ENERGY TO RECEIVE CHABOT SCIENCE AWARD

OAKLAND, CA (October 6, 2003) — Dr. Saul Perlmutter, whose research led to the discovery of a mysterious “dark energy” that is accelerating the expansion of the Universe, will be awarded the inaugural Chabot Science Award this Saturday, October 18, at the 2003 **Chabot Space & Science Center** Gala. This exciting new award serves to recognize and honor excellence in the field of scientific and technological discovery.

Dr. Edward Penhoet, chair of the selection committee and a member of Chabot’s Board of Directors said, “We are extremely proud to have this opportunity to honor Dr. Perlmutter for his outstanding contribution to science and astronomy. It is especially gratifying that Dr. Perlmutter is a Bay Area scientist who has dedicated his work to a subject near and dear to our hearts. The significance of his fundamental investigations in astrophysics leading to the discovery of ‘dark energy’ has been internationally recognized.”

The Gala is a fundraiser to support Chabot’s public and school educational programs, as well as its teacher training programs. A special fund has been established, through the generosity of an anonymous donor, to benefit the next five recipients of the Chabot Science Award. The Gala, which is sold out, will begin at 6 pm with a cocktail reception, followed by dinner and an auction, with the presentation of the Science Award at 8:30 pm.

Dr. Perlmutter is a senior scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and is the leader of the Supernova Cosmology Project, an international collaboration of research teams from seven countries. The American Association for the Advancement of Science honored Dr. Perlmutter with *Science* magazine’s “1998 Breakthrough of the Year” Award, for measurements indicating an accelerating universe. Author of more than 70 papers in the fields of physics, astrophysics, and cosmology, he has addressed such topics as the cosmological constant, dark energy, supernovae, pulsars, gravitational lenses, massive compact halo objects, and advanced detector systems for astrophysics. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, and has received the E.O. Lawrence Award in Physics, as well as the Henri Chretien Award from the American Astronomical Society. More information about his work may be found at the Supernova Cosmology Project Web Site:
<http://supernova.lbl.gov>

GENERAL INFORMATION

Chabot Space & Science Center is located at 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, in Joaquin Miller Park in the Oakland Hills. Chabot’s public hours are: Fridays, 5 pm–10 pm; Saturdays, 10 am–10 pm; Sundays 12 noon–5 pm. Telescope viewing on Fridays and Saturdays from dusk–10 pm, weather permitting. General Admission is \$11 Adults / \$8 Youth

and Seniors. MegaDome Theatre shows are \$6. Tickets may be purchased at the door, or by calling (510) 336-7373. Group visits must be scheduled in advance, and are available Wednesdays through Sundays.

For more information, call (510) 336-7300, or visit www.chabotspace.org

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