



Canyon Country Campus Hosts Pair of Family-Friendly Events

The College of the Canyons Canyon Country Campus invites community members to celebrate the fall season with a pair of events taking place on campus this month.

“The Canyon Country campus is a great venue for all kinds of family events,” said Dr. Dena Maloney, vice president of the Canyon Country Campus and Economic Development. “In particular, the outdoor amphitheater is the perfect location for stargazing, nature lectures and movie nights.”

Back at the campus for a second viewing, the planet Jupiter will be on full display and available for all to view during the campus’ annual fall Star Party, being held from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 15, in the Carl A. Rasmussen Amphitheater.

During the event, COC faculty members and astronomers will be on hand to provide audiences with information related to the largest planet in the solar system and help attendees personally view the planet through one of several high-powered telescopes that will be positioned toward the planet, its famous red spot and more than 60 moons.

“This is the second time we’ve looked at Jupiter,” Maloney said. “We had such strong feedback about that first event and, given Jupiter’s visibility at this time of year, we’ve decided to focus on it again.”

Star Party attendees are encouraged to come early with picnic baskets, blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy a festive outdoor atmosphere as the sun sets and Jupiter comes into view.

To begin the evening, NASA astronomer Dr. David Ciardi and Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) science system engineer Dr. Kevin Grazier will present a short orientation lecture to familiarize audiences with the fifth planet from the sun.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase at the event through campus food vendor Maui Wowi. A portion of the concession sales from the Star Party will be donated to the Dr. Ram Manvi Memorial Scholarship to benefit students who are majoring in the fields of mathematics, science or engineering technology.

In late October the college invites community members back to the Canyon Country campus for an evening of Halloween inspired cinematic suspense with a free outdoor screening of director Alfred Hitchcock’s film, “Psycho.”

“Alfred Hitchcock’s films are timeless, suspenseful thrillers,” Maloney said. “The College of the Canyons cinema department is offering a class on the films of Alfred Hitchcock this semester, and we thought showing a Hitchcock film during the Halloween season would be a great way to launch our outdoor movie night series.”

The screening of “Psycho” will begin at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 30 in the campus’ Carl A. Rasmussen Amphitheater. The film will be shown on a 16-foot-wide, state-of-the-art outdoor movie screen, with attendees again encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs to view the movie from.



Santa Clarita resident Mackenzie Trujillo, 8, peers through a telescope at Canyon Country Campus Star Party last spring. In October the Star Party returns along with a Halloween inspired screening of Alfred Hitchcock’s timeless classic, “Psycho.”

The evening will begin with a brief presentation about Alfred Hitchcock and the film “Psycho” by College of the Canyons cinema instructor Mindy Johnson. Following the screening there will be a question/answer period providing audiences an opportunity to discuss the film.

Hot cocoa, popcorn and other snacks and beverages will be available for purchase through Maui Wowi, located adjacent to the amphitheater.

For more information about the Star Party or outdoor movie screening contact the College of the Canyons Canyon Country Campus at (661) 362-3801.

