

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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'GEEK OUT' AT LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE

**Brainiacs, Astrologers and Science Enthusiasts Are Invited
To Frolic With Science and the Best Makeout Spot in the Bay Area**

Berkeley, California October 29, 2009 – Endowed with badass science intelligence, a new planetarium and the best makeout spot in the Bay Area, the Lawrence Hall of Science

(<http://www.lawrencehallofscience.org>) has created an evening science soiree for science lovers.

Scheduled once per month, 'Geek Out' events will feature innovative scientists, food and beverage.

November's Geek Out event is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 18**, from 7pm to 10pm. In addition to learning – and experiencing – what it would take to survive on Mars, scientific revelers will have the opportunity to work together to design and build their own Mars base while they rub shoulders with a SETI scientist who will provide some design tips as well as a briefing about what conditions are like on Mars and the challenges faced by astronauts who travel there.

On December 10th, wannabe astronauts and space travelers will be invited to mingle and chat about Why We Must Colonize Space from 7pm-10pm. The superstar scientist leading the topic of exploration will be Seth Shostak, a SETI astronomer, who was recently a featured guest on comedy central's the Colbert Report. He will discuss why space exploration and colonization are not merely a good idea—but an essential one. This event is presented in partnership with the department of Physics at University of California, Berkeley as the annual Warren William Chupp Distinguished lecture.

Additional events will be announced as programs are finalized. Tickets to the **Geek Out** events are \$10 per person for general admission and \$8 for LHS members, UC Berkeley students and teamSETI members. The events are in partnership with the SETI Institute. The series is also supported by a grant from the IMLS. The views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

About Lawrence Hall of Science:

The mission of Lawrence Hall of Science (LHS) is to inspire and foster the learning of science and mathematics for all. LHS is the public science center of the University of California, Berkeley, and an innovative leader in the field of science and mathematics education. Engaging students and their families in the fascination behind science and math, LHS connects with classrooms, schools and communities. The Hall also designs and disseminates effective instructional materials and exhibits while creating distinctive learning and leadership opportunities for educators. LHS is committed to serving all, especially those with limited access to science and mathematics.