



**Triton College**

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## **New Projector Delivers Dazzling, Out-of-this-World Experience at Cernan Earth and Space Center**



Photos courtesy of Helping Planetariums Succeed.

**RIVER GROVE, Ill.** — The wonders of the universe are shining brighter than ever at the Cernan Earth and Space Center, thanks to a new digital projector installed this summer.

During three days of work in July, Cernan staff collaborated with technicians from Spitz/E&S/Cosm and Helping Planetariums Succeed to remove the Cernan Center's decade-old, lamp-based projector and install a new laser phosphor projector, offering sharper images and more vibrant colors. The Cernan Center is located on the Triton College campus in River Grove, Ill.

Cernan Center Director Kris McCall said the projected image is clearer and more colorful than before, and the rendition of the night sky is stunning. Visitors who have attended a show at the planetarium before will notice a difference, she said.

"The new projector is brighter and provides greater color than the old one," McCall said. "The difference is noticeable. Folks may not necessarily be able to put their finger on what's different, but it definitely looks better."

The previous projector relied on expensive arc lamps to project images on the planetarium dome and served the Cernan Center faithfully for 10 years, before it began to show signs of wear.

The new projector uses laser phosphor technology to focus red, green and blue light through a lens onto the dome's surface.

“We’re continuing to up our game; the same way we keep increasing the variety of our program offerings,” McCall said. “Our catalog of available shows has continued to grow over 10 years, and this is just a new tool.”

The Cernan Earth and Space Center supports the educational curriculum of Triton College students and area grade schools and other groups and also offers fun and informative programs on a variety of educational topics for the community. In September, the Cernan Center will present a wide array of shows for all ages, including:

- **One World, One Sky: Big Bird’s Adventure**, featuring Sesame Street characters exploring the Sun, Moon and stars
- **Big Astronomy**, highlighting the diverse individuals and roles involved in making discoveries at giant observatories in Chile
- **Laser Led Zeppelin** — what more explanation do you need?

“We can’t wait for all of you to come see the difference,” McCall said. “Oh, and bring some friends!”

For a full schedule of events, visit [triton.edu/cernan](http://triton.edu/cernan) or call 708-456-0300, ext. 3372.

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**ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE**

Triton College is an institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs designed for students to realize their career aspirations and effectively compete in a global economy. The college campus spans 110 acres in River Grove, Illinois, holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton’s exemplary faculty and staff work to provide high-quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 10,000 students each year. Triton College is a member of The Community Colleges of Illinois and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at [triton.edu](http://triton.edu).