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News Release

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**Fullerton Arboretum to Host
Local "100 Hours of Astronomy"
An Event 400 Years in the Making
April 4, 2009**

(Fullerton, CA) – The Fullerton Arboretum is pleased to announce it will be hosting a special public outreach astronomy event and program on Saturday, April 4, 2009, to support the International Astronomical Union’s 2009 cornerstone project titled “100 Hours of Astronomy”—An Event 400 Years in the Making.

The 100 Hours of Astronomy Cornerstone Project is a worldwide event consisting of a wide range of public outreach activities, a live science center, research observatory webcasts and sidewalk astronomy events. One of the key goals of “100 Hours of Astronomy” is to have as many people as possible look through a telescope as Galileo did for the first time 400 years ago. “100 Hours of Astronomy” will take place worldwide from April 2-5, when the Moon goes from first quarter to gibbous, good phases for early evening observing. Saturn will be the other highlight of early evening observing events.

From April 2-5, the International Astronomical Union is asking professional and amateur astronomers to set up telescopes on the Friday or Saturday evening (April 4 & 5) for public viewing around the world at different locations. At this time, the Fullerton Arboretum will be the only public location for this event in North Orange County and it will be presented on Saturday, April 4 only.

This special Fullerton Arboretum program will be held Saturday from noon to 9:00 pm and is free to the public. It will be staged in the Cittadin Plaza at the Arboretum's Visitor's Center, with interactive displays, various educational materials plus planet and solar system displays for the general public and visitors to view. Telescopes for both day and night viewing will also be set up in the Cittadin Plaza to be used by guests through the afternoon until 9:00 pm.

This event is free to the public and is co-sponsored by the Department of Biological Science at CSUF. Admission is free to both this program and the Arboretum.

Established in 1979, the Fullerton Arboretum has served the community as a premier resource for ecological, horticultural and historical education. The Fullerton Arboretum is the largest botanical garden in Orange County. Encompassing 26 lush acres, The Fullerton Arboretum has assembled a permanent collection of over 4,000 unique and unusual plant species from around the world. With its ponds, streams and wildlife, the Fullerton Arboretum offers a tranquil retreat from a fast-paced urban life. The Fullerton Arboretum is located on the CSUF campus one block west of the 57 freeway at Yorba Linda Blvd. and Associated Road. For further information, contact the Fullerton Arboretum at (714) 278-3407 or visit our website at www.fullertonarboretum.org.

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