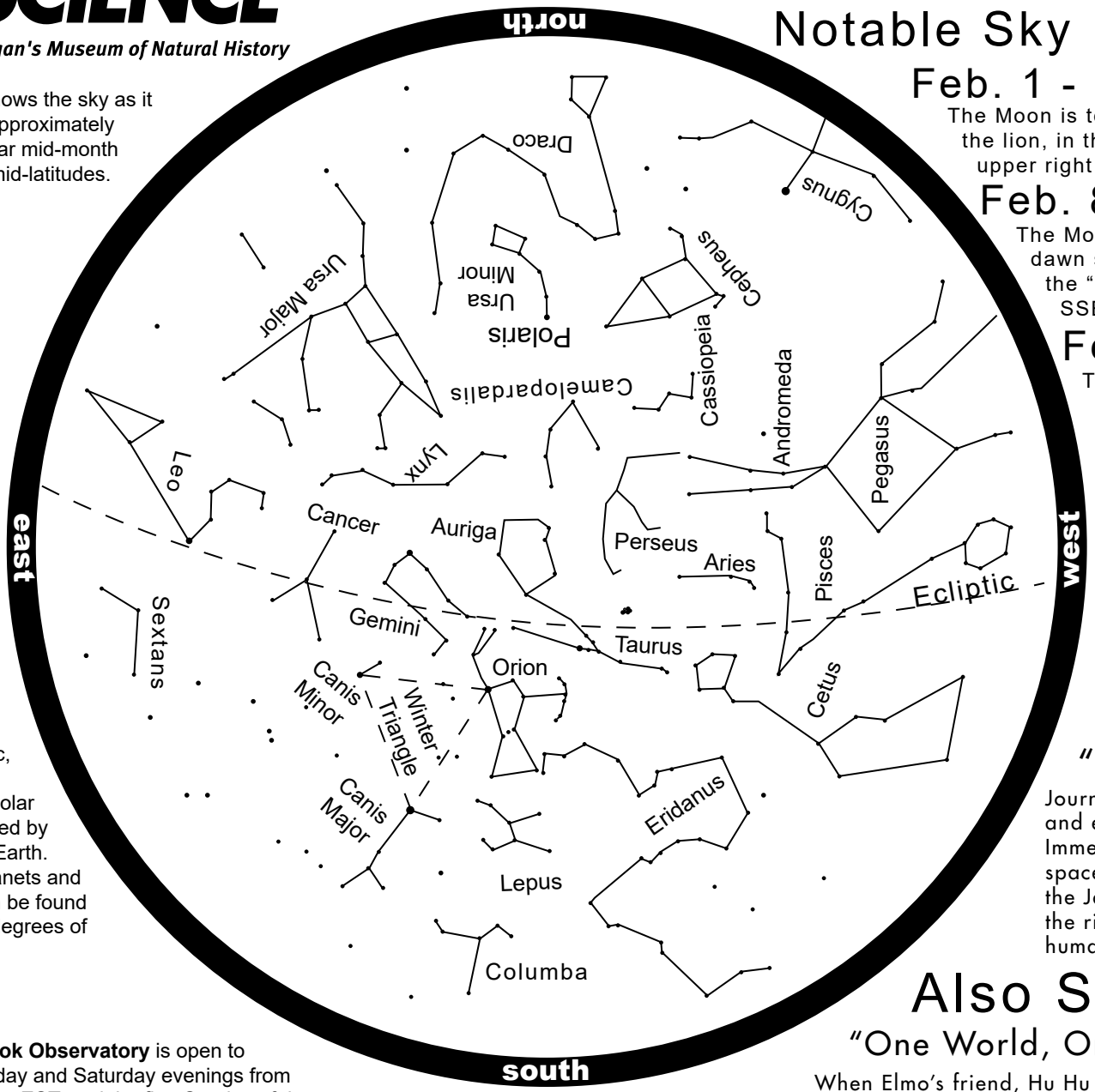
CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Michigan's Museum of Natural History

FEBRUARY 2018

Notable Sky Happenings

This chart shows the sky as it appears at approximately 8pm EST near mid-month at northern mid-latitudes.



What is that dashed line? It's the ecliptic, the reference plane of the solar system, defined by the Sun and Earth. The major planets and the Moon can be found within a few degrees of this plane.

Feb. 1 - 7

The Moon is to the lower left of Regulus, the "heart" of Leo the lion, in the E the evening of the 1st. The Moon is to the upper right of Jupiter in the S predawn sky on the 7th.

Feb. 8 - 14

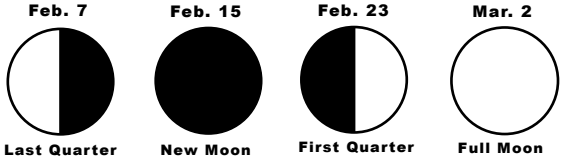
The Moon is to the upper left of Mars in the SSE predawn sky on the 9th. The star below Mars is Antares, the "rival of Mars." The "star" below the Moon in the SSE predawn sky on the 11th is the planet Saturn.

Feb. 15 - 21

There is a partial solar eclipse on the 15th, but it's not visible from our area.

Feb. 22 - 28

The Moon is to the left of Aldebaran, the "eye" of Taurus, in the SSE the evening of the 23rd and above Regulus the evening of the 28th.



Now Showing

"From Dream to Discovery"

Journey from NASA's test facilities all the way to Pluto and experience the excitement of today's space missions. Immerse yourself in the adventures and extremes of spacecraft engineering—from the design of missions like the James Webb Space Telescope and New Horizons, to the rigors of testing, launch, and space operations. When humans dare to dream, we create truly amazing things.

Also Showing

"One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure"

When Elmo's friend, Hu Hu Zhu, visits from China. Big Bird, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu take viewers on an exciting discovery of the Sun, Moon, and stars. They learn about the Big Dipper and the North Star and take an imaginary trip to the Moon where they learn that the Moon is a very different place.

The Cranbrook Observatory is open to the public Friday and Saturday evenings from 7:30 - 10:00pm EST, and the first Sunday of the month from 1:00 - 4:00pm for solar viewing. Come have a look through our 6" telescope! For observatory information visit http://science.cranbrook.edu/explore/observatory

For astronomy information visit http://science.cranbrook.edu