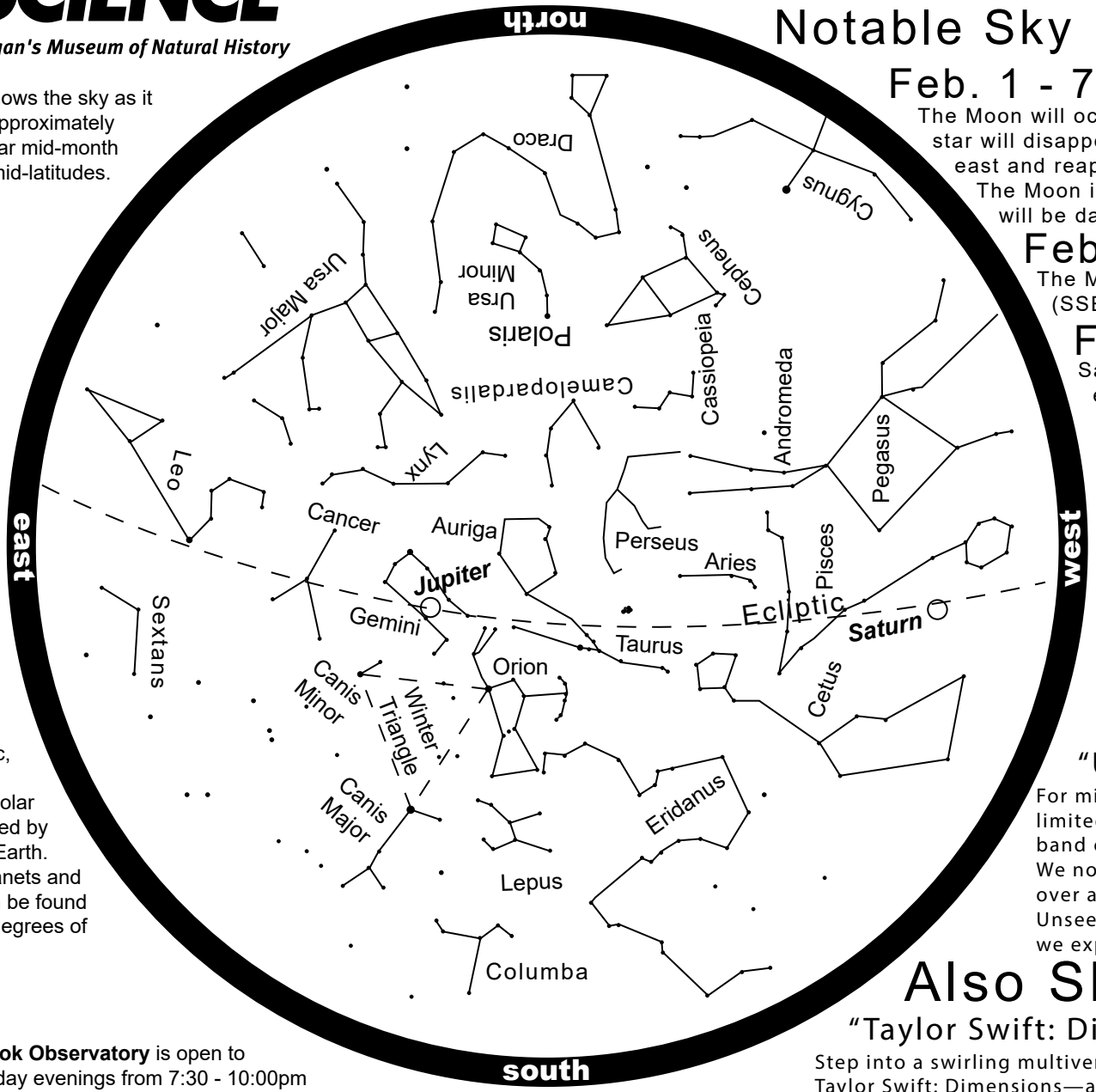
CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Michigan's Museum of Natural History

FEBRUARY 2026

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 will occult (cover) the star Regulus on the 2nd! The star will disappear behind the Moon at 8:46pm EST in the east and reappear at 9:47pm EST (times are for Detroit). The Moon is one day past full and the reflected sunlight will be dazzling.

Feb. 8 - 14

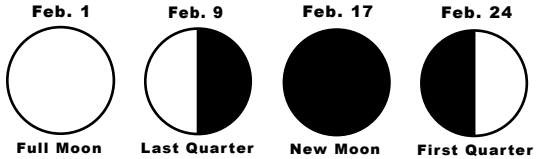
The Moon is at the lower left of Antares on the 11th (SSE predawn).

Feb. 15 - 21

Saturn is below and to the left of the Moon in evening twilight on the 19th. Also on the 19th: Happy Birthday, Copernicus in 1473.

Feb. 22 - 28

The bright "star" below the Moon on the 26th is Jupiter (SE evening). The following evening the Moon is below the star Pollux in Gemini.



Now Showing

"Unseen Universe"

For millions of years our view of the heavens has been limited by our eyes; allowing us to only see a narrow band of electromagnetic radiation we call visible light. We now have the technology to capture the Universe over an amazing width of the spectrum and beyond. Unseen Universe provides a stunning visual treat as we explore the latest splendors of the heavens.

Also Showing

"Taylor Swift: Dimensions"

Step into a swirling multiverse where mathematics and music collide in Taylor Swift: Dimensions—a stunning planetarium experience of breath-taking 360° visuals. From the tender acoustics of "Cardigan" to the electric energy of "Ready For It?" and the fun vibes of "Cruel Summer."

The Cranbrook Observatory is open to the public Friday evenings from 7:30 - 10:00pm EST, and the first Sunday of the month from 1:00 - 4:00pm for solar viewing.

For observatory information visit http://science.cranbrook.edu/explore/observatory

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