

SEPTEMBER 2026

Notable Sky Happenings

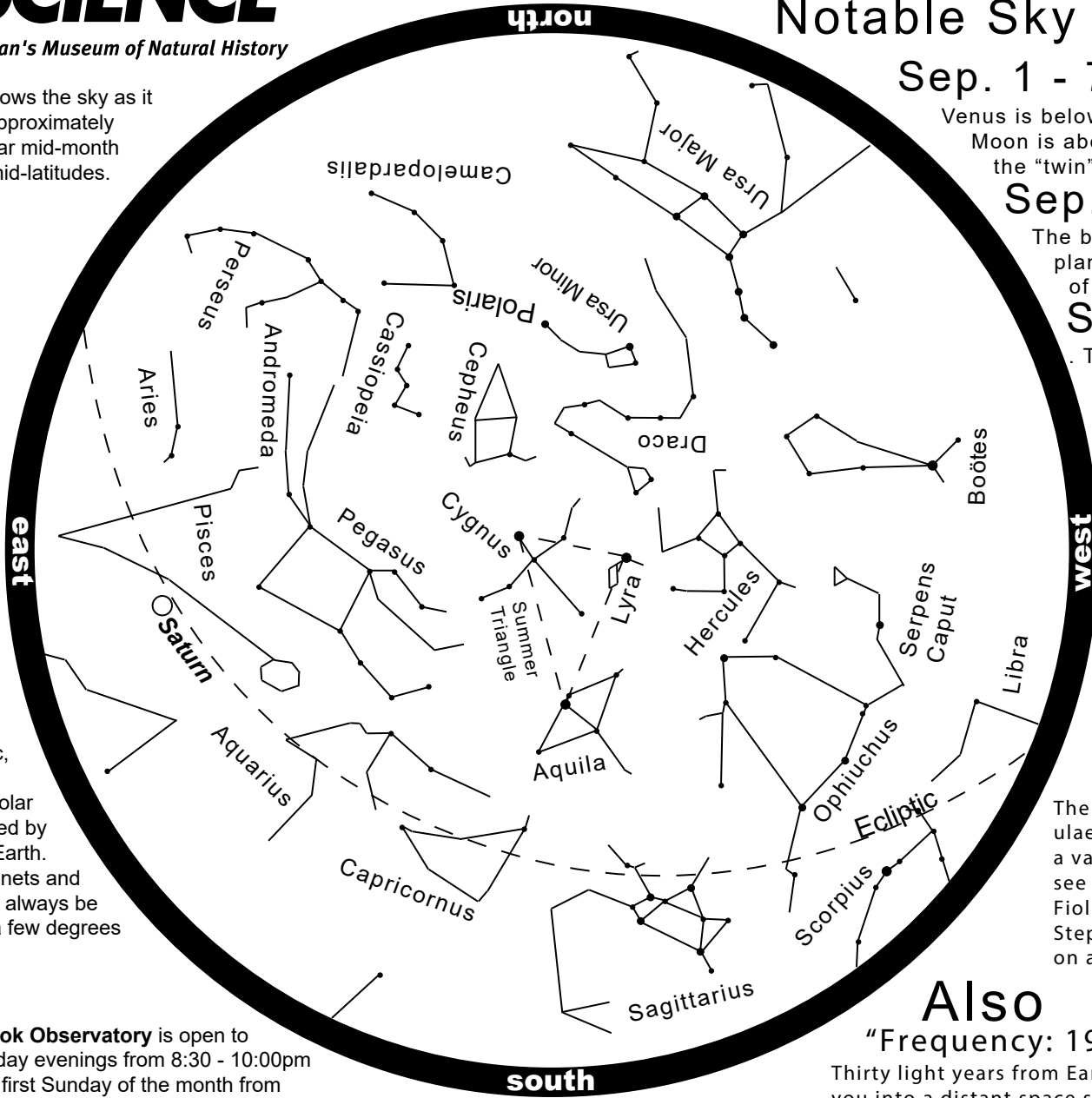


This chart shows the sky as it appears at approximately 9pm EDT near mid-month at northern mid-latitudes.

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 always be found within a few degrees of this plane.

The Cranbrook Observatory is open to the public Friday evenings from 8:30 - 10:00pm EDT, 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>



Sep. 1 - 7

Venus is below Spica on the 1st (WSW evening twilight). The Moon is above Mars on the 6th and below Pollux on the 7th; the "twin" star, Castor, is above Pollux (E morning).

Sep. 8 - 14

The bright star below the Moon on the 8th is the planet Jupiter. (E morning). The Moon is to the left of Venus on the 14th (WSW evening twilight).

Sep. 15 - 21

The Moon is to the right of Antares on the 16th and to the left on the 17th (SW evening).

Sep. 22 - 30

The September (Fall) Equinox occurs at 6:05pm EDT on the 22nd. The Full Moon on the 26th is the Harvest Moon; Saturn is below the Moon (E evening).



Coming in mid-Oct. "Treasures of the Night Sky"

The sky is covered with spectacular galaxies, hazy nebulae and sparkling star clusters. This program examines a variety of these riches. Many of the images we will see were rendered by our staff Program Presenter, Jan Fiolka. **Double Feature:** "AI think, therefore AI am." Step into the mind of AI-ME, a generative intelligence on a journey struggling to define its identity.

Also "Frequency: 199X"

Thirty light years from Earth, a signal finally arrives. "Frequency: 199X" drops you into a distant space station just now tuning in to the raw, analog heart-beat of the 1990s. Grunge, alt-rock, and radio anthems pulse through the cosmos as Black Hole Sun, Kryptonite, Smells Like Teen Spirit, and more ignite a cascade of vivid, immersive visuals.

For astronomy information visit <https://science.cranbrook.edu>