

Soref Planetarium, Milwaukee Public Museum



*Below are suggestions to use in a **live sky talk** before or after presenting **Stellar Women in Astronomy**. Please feel free to make your own connections with these and other women astronomers. Use pictures and videos as needed.*

<u>ASTRONOMER</u>	<u>SKY SIGHT</u>	<u>CONNECTION POINTS to TEACH</u>
• Hypatia	North Star	Astrolabe --Location/latitude, North Star, Directions; Have audience do sky measurements—importance of it--closed fist = 10 degrees, finger width 2 degrees
• Caroline Herschel	Comets & Nebulae	Show location of any recent comets and/or nebulae. Fun facts of comets, dirty snowball/icebergs, like cats—tail & unpredictable. Bright comets rarity—hard to see--very diffuse, light pollution--hard to get dark skies
• Maria Mithcell	Eclipses	You can do comets here too, but her 1878 eclipse trip was legendary. When are the next solar & lunar eclipses in the sky?
• Henrietta Leavitt	Cepheus	Point out Show Delta Cephei (the first Cepheid discovered) in Cepheus--talk on variable stars and her work on Cepheids in Magellanic Clouds
• Annie Jump Cannon	Star Color	Point out red Betelgeuse and blue Rigel for winter. Or yellow Arcturus, red Antares and blue Spica. Ask why stars have different colors? Temperature!
• Cecilia Payne	Sun	Stars are far away suns, they are all made of hydrogen—mostly. They all work the same way—hydrogen to helium....nuclear fusion.
• Joycelyn Bell	Pulsar	Show Taurus--location of M1, Crab Nebula --or other supernovae remnants—Cass A in Cassiopeia, Tycho's in Cassiopeia, Kepler's in Ophiuchus, Veil Nebula in Cygnus. Talk about radio "light"—EM Spectrum...
• Katherine Johnson & All	Moon	Show Moon—how we used math (Hidden Figures) to get there. Laws of gravity. Relate discovery of Neptune using math.
• Vera Rubin	Andromeda Galaxy	Or show another galaxy. Zoom up... talk about speed of stars— Vera's discovery . Talk on dark matter—"Stars are a small part of what's out there in space."
• Katie Bouman	Black Holes	Show location of M87 in Virgo (50 million light years away) or Sagittarius A (27,000 light years, or Cygnus X-1 (7,200 light years).