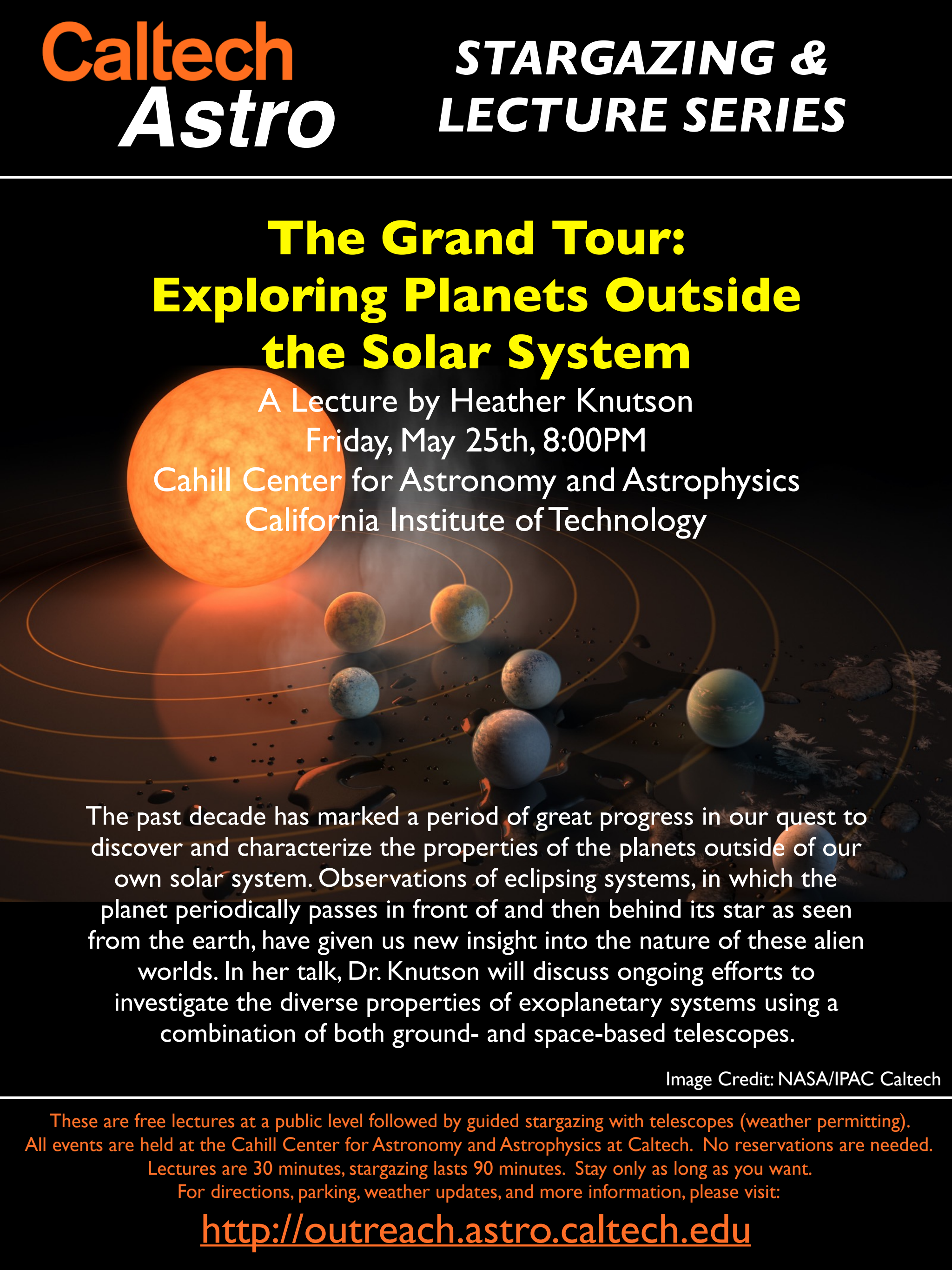


**The Grand Tour:
Exploring Planets Outside
the Solar System**

A Lecture by Heather Knutson

Friday, May 25th, 8:00PM

Cahill Center for Astronomy and Astrophysics
California Institute of Technology



The past decade has marked a period of great progress in our quest to discover and characterize the properties of the planets outside of our own solar system. Observations of eclipsing systems, in which the planet periodically passes in front of and then behind its star as seen from the earth, have given us new insight into the nature of these alien worlds. In her talk, Dr. Knutson will discuss ongoing efforts to investigate the diverse properties of exoplanetary systems using a combination of both ground- and space-based telescopes.

Image Credit: NASA/IPAC Caltech

These are free lectures at a public level followed by guided stargazing with telescopes (weather permitting). All events are held at the Cahill Center for Astronomy and Astrophysics at Caltech. No reservations are needed. Lectures are 30 minutes, stargazing lasts 90 minutes. Stay only as long as you want. For directions, parking, weather updates, and more information, please visit:

<http://outreach.astro.caltech.edu>