

A black hole is depicted at the center, surrounded by a glowing accretion disk. A bright jet of light extends upwards from the black hole. The background is a dark, starry space.

The Monster at the Heart of our Galaxy

2019 Edmondson Lecture

Presented by

Prof. Andrea Ghez

University of California, Los Angeles

16 October

7:30 PM

Rawles Hall Rm 100

Andrea Ghez and her team use the world's most powerful telescopes and next-generation imaging technology to peer into the heart of our galaxy. From the motions of stars, she measures the mass of the Milky Way's black hole, and suggests that most, if not all, galaxies harbor such objects at their cores. Come and explore the bizarre environment near a supermassive black hole and learn how her work tests Einstein's theory of relativity.

Free and Open to the Public

Professor Ghez is the Lauren Leichtman & Arthur Levine Chair of Astrophysics at UCLA. Her ground-breaking work on the center of our galaxy leads to the best evidence to date for the existence of a supermassive black hole at the center of the Milky Way. Ghez earned a B.S. in Physics from MIT in 1987, and a Ph.D. in Astrophysics from Caltech in 1992. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and received the 2012 Crafoord Prize from the Swedish Academy of Sciences.

Reception follows in Swain West

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