2007 Stephen Hawking Caltech Public Lecture - Ticketing Information

Stephen Hawking will give a public lecture at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3, 2007 at Caltech. The title of the lecture is “Running History Backwards.” The lecture will be presented in Beckman Auditorium, with additional capacity provided in an overflow facility. The audio from the Beckman lecture will be heard live in the overflow facility, and will be accompanied by a live image of Dr. Hawking from Beckman and by the on-screen images from his presentation. In addition, the live audio without visuals will be broadcast in front of Beckman Auditorium for those who are unable to get into either facility.

Although the lecture is free, tickets will be required for admission to Beckman Auditorium and to the overflow facility. A limited number of Beckman Auditorium tickets will be issued to Caltech’s faculty and invited guests. The remainder of the Beckman Auditorium tickets (about 400) and all of the overflow facility tickets will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the morning of the lecture, Tuesday, April 3.

Please read the following carefully.

PARKING
If you are parked on campus-owned property between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, your vehicle must display a Caltech parking permit. Hourly or day permits may be purchased in several locations around campus. A detailed parking map is available at http://parking.caltech.edu/Parking_Zone_Map.pdf. More information on parking regulations can be found on the Caltech Parking web site at http://parking.caltech.edu/.

GETTING IN LINE
Public ticket distribution will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 3 at Beckman Auditorium. We expect the line for tickets to begin forming much earlier than that. The line for tickets will form on the Mall in front of Beckman Auditorium (the area bounded by Beckman Auditorium, Beckman, and Baxter on the parking map above). Signs will be in place to indicate the route the line should take. Do not hold places in line for others who are not already on-site. Our staff will distribute numbered slips as well as name-and-address cards. Be sure to keep your numbered slip, as we will be calling the numbers in order for ticket distribution. Please fill in the name-and-address card when you get it. A staff member will collect the cards so we can enter your information into our ticketing system before ticketing begins. This will speed up the actual distribution of tickets, and will ensure that we have a correct record of all who receive tickets.

TICKET DISTRIBUTION
At 8:00 a.m., our staff will begin calling numbers from the slips. When your number is called, please come to the ticket counter set up by the auditorium. We’ll ask for your zip code and last name, confirm the address we’ve already entered into our ticketing system, and then ask if you would like one or two tickets. There is a limit of two tickets per person in line. Please do not request two tickets unless you have already confirmed with another person that you will be getting them a ticket. We cannot over-issue tickets, so issuing tickets which go unused will prevent someone else from getting into the
evening lecture. We will begin the ticketing by issuing tickets for Beckman Auditorium, where Dr. Hawking will actually be presenting his lecture. Please note that these tickets guarantee admission to Beckman ONLY if you are in line that evening no later than 7:30 p.m. If you arrive later than that, you will be directed to join the line of guests with tickets to the overflow facility, even though you have a Beckman ticket. There will be no exceptions to the 7:30 cut-off time. We anticipate having about 400 Beckman tickets for distribution on the morning of April 3rd. After we have run out of Beckman tickets, we will begin issuing tickets to the overflow facility. These overflow tickets guarantee admission ONLY if you are in line that evening no later than 7:45 p.m. Shortly after the 7:30 cut-off time for Beckman tickets, we will fill any remaining seats in Beckman with ticket holders in the front of the overflow-ticket line. When there are no more seats in Beckman, we will direct guests in this line to the overflow facility for seating. If you are holding an overflow ticket and do no wish to wait in line, you may go directly to the overflow facility for seating. If you arrive after 7:45 p.m. you will not be guaranteed a seat in either facility, as we will begin issuing tickets to those waiting without tickets of any kind. We anticipate having about 350 overflow tickets for distribution on the morning of April 3rd.

WHAT'S NEXT?
Once you have your ticket, you're “free to go!” When you return in the evening, please plan to arrive early; parking lots around Beckman will fill quickly, and we will be strictly enforcing the 7:30 cut-off time for Beckman tickets and the 7:45 cut-off time for overflow tickets. When you do come back, be prepared to stand in line again. The line for those holding Beckman tickets will form on the east side of the Mall, in front of the Baxter building. The line for those holding overflow tickets will form on the west side of the Mall, in front of the rectangular Beckman building opposite Baxter. The line for guests without tickets will form on the west side of Beckman Auditorium, along the rectangular fountain. We expect the lines for those without tickets and those holding overflow tickets to form first, likely in the afternoon, although there's no way of knowing when you “should” arrive for the lecture.

NOTE: Please do not plan to bring into either of our presentation facilities that evening: cameras of any kind, recorders of any kind, food or drink. These items may be left with the house staff if necessary, but are much better left at home or in your car.

MORE INFORMATION
The web page for this lecture, with a link to Dr. Hawking’s web site, is available from the Caltech Public Events web site at:

www.events.caltech.edu

Directions to Beckman Auditorium can be found on our web site.

If you have questions or comments, please email them to events@caltech.edu or call the Caltech Ticket Office at 626-395-4652.