

IPS 2026 FUKUOKA Schedule

FCSM: FUKUOKA CITY SCIENCE MUSEUM
FKC: FUKUOKA KOKUSAI CENTER
FICC: FUKUOKA INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS CENTER
OPNT: OHORI PARK NOH THEATER

June	18 Thu Pre-1	19 Fri Pre-2	20 Sat Pre-3	21 Sun Pre-4	22 Mon Day-1	23 Tue Day-2	24 Wed Day-3	25 Thu Day-4	26 Fri Day-5	27 Sat- Day-6~
FCSM	FullDome Festival		IPS Board Meeting Collaborative Symposium		Sponsor Promotion Sessions & Workshops					
FKC							Sponsor Exhibition			
FICC							Concurrent Sessions/ General Meeting/ Keynote			
OPNT				Welcome (Social Event)						
TBA									Banquet	Post Conference Tour

June 18-19

A Fulldome Festival will be held at the Fukuoka City Science Museum's Dome Theater. The festival includes screenings of feature works from content creators around the world, and a short film contest.

June 20-21

An IPS Board Meeting will be held at the Fukuoka City Science Museum, alongside a symposium and series of events open to the public. The welcome event on the evening of the 21st will feature a performance of Noh, a traditional Japanese art form, at the Ohori Park Noh Theater, followed by a meal and social gathering.

June 22-23

Conference sponsors and exhibitors will demonstrate their latest equipment and visual technologies at the Fukuoka City Science Museum's Dome Theater and Science Hall. Sessions and workshops will also be held in the museum's other exhibition rooms and laboratories.

June 24-26, Morning

The venue of the conference will shift to the Fukuoka Kokusai Center and the Fukuoka International Congress Center. At the Kokusai Center, participants can experience the latest in technology and visual technology at our conference sponsor booths; while at the International Congress Center, sessions and workshops of various sizes will be held in more than 20 meeting rooms, including the main hall that fits up to 1,000 participants. Session themes are as follows:

General Topics

- Philosophy
- Technology and Hardware
- Management, Administration and Public Relations
- Planetariums and Astronomy Education
- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility
- Mobile Planetariums
- The Future of Planetariums

Special Sessions (IPS 2026 FUKUOKA Original Topics)

- Planetarium enthusiasts meeting
- The Lore of the World's Stars
- Planetariums and the Space Development Business
- History of Japanese Planetariums and the Popularization of Astronomy from national and international perspectives
- Japanese Anime Culture and Planetariums

June 26, Afternoon

A tour of the Fukuoka area, followed by a banquet in the evening.

June 27 onwards Post-Conference Tour

A trip to visit Japan's leading planetarium facilities, observatories, and tourist attractions is currently being planned.

The contents of the conference may be subject to change. Please refer to the conference website for the latest information.

<https://www.ips2026fukuoka.com/>



IPS 2026 FUKUOKA Local Organizing Committee

4-2-1 Ropponmatsu, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka City 810-0044, Japan
FUKUOKA CITY SCIENCE MUSEUM
TEL: +81-92-731-2525 / FAX: +81-92-731-2530
E-mail: ips-fukuoka@fukuokacity-kagakukan.jp

For Questions Related to Exhibiting Sponsors

Professional Congress Organizer (PCO)
IPS 2026 LOC Support Team
E-mail: sponsor_ips2026@officebeone.com

The International Planetarium Society Conference
is coming to Fukuoka in June 2026!



FUKUOKA
2026



June 21 Sun. - 26 Fri. 2026

Welcome Event: June 21 (Sun) Evening
Conference: June 22 (Mon) to 26 (Fri) Morning
Banquet: June 26 (Fri) Evening



IPS 2026 Fukuoka Conference

In June 2026, the Fukuoka City Science Museum will host the International Planetarium Society (IPS) Conference - held in Japan for the first time in 30 years.

This conference is a gathering of people from around the world who are involved or interested in planetariums and astronomy. It will explore the latest advances in the industry, as well as providing plenty of chances to exchange opinions and network with planetarians from around the world. This is a valuable opportunity to participate in such an event in Japan, so we hope many of you will join us.

Conference Theme: “One Earth, One Sky”

Throughout human history, we have built diverse societies with unique languages and cultures. Today, as we face the challenge of developing sustainable societies, international collaboration has become more important than ever. In this era, there is a growing need for a place where people can connect across fields and borders to share their wisdom and experiences.

With the theme of "One Earth, One Sky," IPS 2026 FUKUOKA is the first conference to be held following the 100th anniversary of the creation of planetariums. Planetarium professionals from around the world will gather under the sky of Fukuoka, with the aim of fostering new creativity for the next 100 years to come.

IPS 2026 FUKUOKA HOST
Dr. Tetsukazu Yahara
Director, Fukuoka City Science Museum



History of IPS Conferences (Past Conferences)

13th Conference: 1996, Osaka (Japan)	14th Conference: 1998, London (UK)	15th Conference: 2000, Montreal (Canada)
16th Conference: 2002, Wichita (United States)	17th Conference: 2004, Valencia (Spain)	18th Conference: 2006, Melbourne (Australia)
19th Conference: 2008, Chicago (United States)	20th Conference: 2010, Alexandria (Egypt)	21st Conference: 2012, Baton Rouge (United States)
22nd Conference: 2014, Beijing (China)	23rd Conference: 2016, Warsaw (Poland)	24th Conference: 2018, Toulouse (France)
25th Conference: 2020, Virtual Conference	26th Conference: 2021, Virtual Conference	27th Conference: 2024, Jena/Berlin (Germany)
28th Conference: 2026, Fukuoka (Japan)		



IPS President **Dr. Shannon Schmoll**
Director, Talbert and Leota Abrams Planetarium, Michigan State University

IPS: International Planetarium Society

IPS is the largest organization of planetarium professionals in the world. Since its establishment in 1970, approximately 500 members from 50 countries worldwide have joined the association. IPS members represent planetariums of all types and sizes, including schools, universities, museums, observatories, and public facilities. The IPS Conference is held once every two years in various cities across the world.

The 2024 Jena/Berlin Conference commemorated the 100th anniversary of the creation of planetariums. Other 100th anniversary celebrations are being held worldwide between 2023-2025.



Venues & Travel



Fukuoka City Science Museum: IPS 2026 FUKUOKA Main Venue

Prior to the IPS 2026 FUKUOKA conference, a Fulldome Festival will be held at the museum's Dome Theater. Short films and feature films will be screened, and various other co-hosted conferences are also planned to take place. Please come to enjoy viewing a variety of Fulldome content in the museum's 25-meter dome. Conference sponsor presentations, which will kick off the first few days of the conference, will also be held in the museum's Dome Theater and Science Hall. Simultaneously, paper sessions, workshops, and group discussions will be held in various rooms within the museum. In these smaller conferences, attendees will be able to engage in active communication with presenters at close proximity.

Fulldome Festival: June 18–19, 2026
Co-hosted Events: June 20–21, 2026
Conference (Day 1–2): June 22–23, 2026



Fukuoka Kokusai Center: IPS 2026 FUKUOKA Sub-Venue

A large exhibition space will be set up in the Kokusai Center. Here, one can experience the latest technology and works of the conference sponsors and exhibitors. Temporary domes are also planned to be set up for content creators and research presentations. This center will offer a comfortable environment with a lunch space, as well as rest and business meeting areas.

Conference (Days 3–5): June 24–26, 2026



Fukuoka International Congress Center: IPS 2026 Fukuoka Sub-Venue

IPS 2026 FUKUOKA will have many special events, including joint sessions with Japanese planetariums, observatories, and astronomy education professionals. At the International Congress Center, we will host paper sessions, workshops, and group discussions aligned with the conference theme "One Earth, One Sky." In the Main Hall (FICC), we will hold the IPS Business Meeting, keynote speeches, and the closing ceremony (memorial, awards, photo session, etc.).

Conference (Days 3–5): June 24–26, 2026

