



## What is Science On a Sphere®?

Science on a Sphere® is an educational program developed in collaboration with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. SOS uses four projectors to portray images of the earth on a unique screen a six-foot globe, using computer coordinated data. The data come from computer models and satellites, received by NOAA and then developed into data sets for use by the SOS sites around the country and the world.

SOS sites exist throughout the US and internationally; however, New Mexico is not included (see attached list of SOS locations). Santa Fe Community College is working with a group of dedicated community leaders (see attached roster) to bring SOS to our campus. A room has been designated and will serve as a black box theater to house the impressive globe and projection system. Groups of Northern New Mexico school children will be brought to campus to explore and experience SOS. Funds in the amount of \$200,000 are needed to purchase the globe-shaped screen, four projectors, two computers, use of the SOS software and to hire an Operating Manager.

## Opportunities that an SOS site will bring to Northern New Mexico

**Educational:** Using NOAA's collective experience and knowledge of the Earth's land, oceans and atmosphere, SOS provides historic and current information about the dynamics of life on Earth. Students and visitors can look at animated images of atmospheric storms, climate change and ocean temperatures that explain complex environmental processes in a way that is simultaneously intuitive and captivating. The data sets (currently more than 500) show us what has happened, is currently happening and might well happen in the future to the land, seas, poles, air, etc.

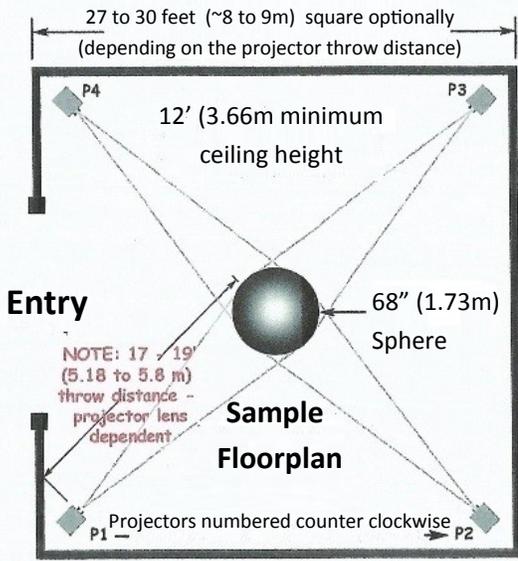
**Cultural:** SOS helps us step back and gain a perspective of life on our planet. It gives us a rare view of Earth from space similar to how astronauts see the planet. It provides a sense of tangibility of the Earth regarding its inhabitants.

**Economical:** SOS can help us recognize how precious our natural resources are, which in turn invites us to become better stewards of those resources. It also ignites interest in science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics (STEAM), which will inspire students to seek degrees and jobs in this arena.

**Training a Leadership Team:** A team at SFCC will be trained to use NOAA data and to work with educators and scientists on how to best use SOS and its educational aspects to the fullest, drawing students from Santa Fe and all over the state for a unique learning experience.

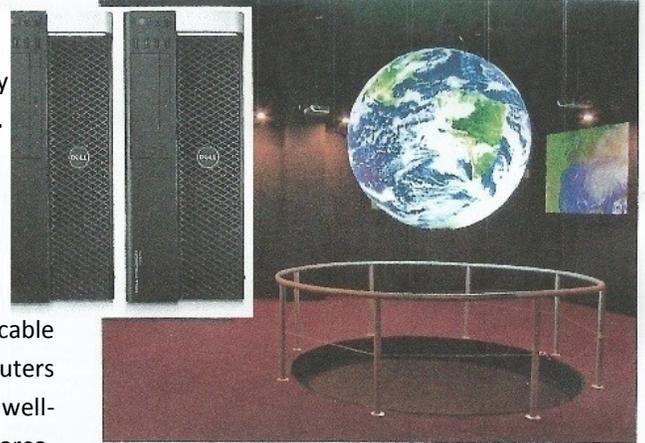
**Open Doors** – SFCC SOS expects to be fully operational and open to the public by April 1, 2016. To learn more go to [sos.noaa.gov/What\\_is\\_SOS/](http://sos.noaa.gov/What_is_SOS/)





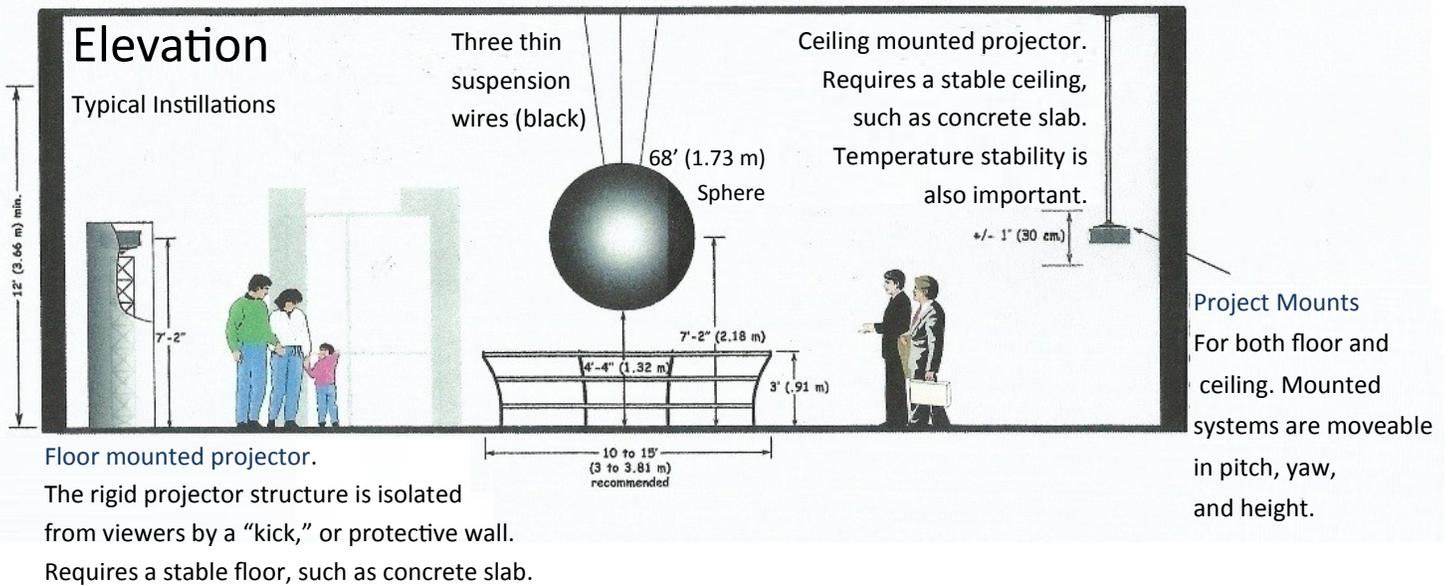
Computers at a typical installation: one primary and one "hot" back-up.

The computers can be located as much as 200' (~60m) from the sphere without additional video cable boosters. The computers must be in a clean, well-ventilated area.



Science on a Sphere® in the David Hines Planet Theater®, Boulder, Colorado, USA

## Science On a Sphere® Geometry



Please show your support of Science on a Sphere®. Call the SFCC Foundation at 505-428-1855 to make a gift or, if you prefer to donate by check, please send your gift to:

Santa Fe Community College Foundation  
6401 Richards Avenue  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508

