Galileo's World Introduction



The *Galileo's World* exhibition brings worlds together, connecting the world of Galileo with the world of OU during the University's 125th anniversary.

Galileo's World is an "Exhibition without Walls," comprised of more than 20 distinctly-themed galleries distributed across seven locations. Galleries in each major library, from Bizzell Memorial Library at the heart of the Norman campus to the Bird Library of the Health Sciences Center and the Schusterman Library in Tulsa, connect the three University campuses. Joint-exhibitions at the National Weather Center, the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art and the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History engage visitors to these renowned museums and research centers.

The *Galileo's World* exhibition offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view a complete set of first editions of Galileo's printed books. Four of the OU copies contain Galileo's own handwriting. They are joined by more than 300 matchless rare books and manuscripts, various interactive digital resources, and finely-crafted replicas of historical instruments, some provided by the Museo Galileo in Florence.

Galileo's World makes unexpected connections and brings worlds together. We hope that through this exhibition, the University community may participate in a vigorous conversation bringing together the vast range of natural sciences and the broad spectrum of the humanities, relating the history of science to its present and its future, and exploring the cultural significance of scientific discovery. *Galileo's World* aims to connect every academic program of the University, sustaining a multidisciplinary conversation that brings our worlds together across time and space.

A portion of Tuscany was transplanted to the windswept plains of Oklahoma, and now the story of Galileo has become part of every student's and researcher's experience at OU. The interconnectedness of science and culture which characterized Galileo's world, and which connects Galileo's world to our own day, remains the common heritage of humanity which we explore across the University and beyond Oklahoma to the world.