

The Lunar and Planetary Institute Presents

# COSMIC EXPLORATIONS: A SPEAKER SERIES

November 21, 2013

## THE 2013 CHELYABINSK AIR BURST AND THE HAZARDS OF NEAR-EARTH ASTEROID IMPACTS

In February 2013, a fireball exploded over Chelyabinsk, Russia, damaging buildings and injuring over 1,000 people. The Chelyabinsk asteroid was estimated to be 20 meters in diameter and the explosion 30 times more powerful than the bomb that destroyed Nagasaki in World War II. The event, while horrifying, provides an opportunity to better estimate the hazards of impact events. Dr. David Kring of the Lunar and Planetary Institute continues the 2013–2014 speaker series — *The Universe is Out to Get Us and What We Can (or Can't) Do About It* — with a discussion of the dangers of asteroid impacts and possible steps that can be taken to mitigate future events.

This FREE presentation at 7:30 p.m. is intended for inquisitive adults and will be followed by a light reception and an opportunity to meet Dr. Kring.

Speaker presentation held at  
USRA's Lunar and Planetary Institute  
3600 Bay Area Boulevard, Houston TX  
(entrance on Middlebrook Drive)

For more information, please call  
281-486-2163 or visit  
[www.lpi.usra.edu/education/lectures](http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/lectures)

*DON  
DAVIS*