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The Grand Cinema Presents Science on Screen: Is Anyone Out There? Series sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Tacoma, WA – The second installment of this year's *Science on Screen* series melds entertainment with astronomy in a unique convergence of film and discussion hosted by The Grand on Monday, June 22nd at 6:45 p.m.

This <u>Science on Screen event</u> will bring theater-goers the opportunity to learn about astronomical discoveries and also watch <u>Another Earth</u>, a dramatic science fiction about the discovery of a duplicate earth in our solar system. Guest speaker Dr. Hillary Stephens, the Director of the Pierce College Science Dome Planetarium, will share a mini-lecture connecting this fictional narrative with reality by discussing how the rapid expansion of technology has significantly influenced astronomical observations and discoveries, posing the question of whether life exists on these distant planets.

Dr. Hillary Stephens graduated from Stadium High School and has returned to Tacoma after earning numerous science degrees including a Bachelor's degree in Physics and Astronomy, a Masters in Physics, and a PhD in Physics. Dr. Stephens shares her passion about the mysteries and wonders of the universe as a professor of physics and astronomy at Pierce College and also oversees the Science Dome Planetarium at the Fort Steilacoom campus.

This is The Grand's second year participating as a grantee in the <u>Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's</u> national initiative to help make science accessible and interesting to general audiences by pairing engaging cinematic experiences with science and technology experts. The Grand Cinema is one of only 23 theaters across the nation to receive funding to participate in the trademarked <u>Science on Screen</u> event series. Prior <u>Science on Screen</u> film events at The Grand Cinema have included Kon-Tiki, <u>Life of Pi</u>, <u>12 Monkeys</u>, Alien, and Obselidia.

Another Earth is rated PG-13 and runs 1 hour and 23 minutes.

<u>Tickets</u> to *Science on Screen* are on sale now and at The Grand's Box Office (606 S Fawcett Ave, Tacoma 98402) or online at www.GrandCinema.com, or by calling (253) 593-4474.