

**Tkach, Colleen**

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**From:** Inform

**Subject:** EM: Harvey Mudd College Nelson Speaker Series: Kip Thorne, Nov. 12

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On Behalf Of HMC Special Events



**2025 DR. BRUCE J. NELSON '74  
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES**

**DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE  
JOURNEYS ACROSS  
SPACE AND TIME**

The 2025 Nelson Series explores innovation at the intersection of STEM, space and human possibility. Nobel Laureate Kip Thorne will reveal the decades-long effort to detect gravitational ripples in spacetime created by colliding black holes, exotic objects he helped bring to life in the movie *Interstellar*.



## Kip Thorne

Theoretical Physicist and Nobel Laureate

**Date:** Wednesday, Nov. 12

**Times and Locations:**

5 p.m.: Community Reception, Sprague Gallery Patio

6 p.m.: Lecture, "My Half-Century Quest, with a Thousand Colleagues, to Create Gravitational Wave Astronomy," Shanahan Auditorium

[Register Now](#)

Thorne will present a series of vignettes that illuminate the birth of gravitational-wave astronomy: From seminal ideas in the 1960s through a difficult technology development program, political battles, human conflicts and \$1.1 billion of taxpayer money, to the first observation of gravitational waves by the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) in 2015 and present LIGO observations of several black hole collisions each week.

The lecture will be held in Shanahan Auditorium at Harvey Mudd College, located at 320 E. Foothill Blvd. in Claremont. [Register online](#) to attend.

The [Nelson Speaker Series](#) is managed by the Office of Signature Events. Direct inquiries to [speialevents@hmc.edu](mailto:speialevents@hmc.edu) or call at 909.607.4263.



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