

2010 LOWELL OBSERVATORY SPECIAL EVENTS

These special events are in addition to our regular public programs, which may be viewed at <http://www.lowell.edu/outreach/programs.php>

Unless otherwise noted, regular public hours and admission fees apply (\$8 per adult, \$7 per senior, college student, AAA member; \$4 per youth, ages 5-17). A discounted combined ticket is available for visitors attending both day and evening programs. Reservations are not taken for any public programs.

For more information, contact Kevin Schindler (kevin(at)lowell(dot)edu or 928-233-3210.

January

Regular public hours: daytime noon-5 p.m.; nighttime M/W/F/Sat 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Wed 6 **Flagstaff Night** (regular evening hours) — Lowell Astronomer Deidre Hunter will give a presentation at 7:00 p.m., *Star Formation in LITTLE THINGS*, about her exciting research of dwarf galaxies. Telescope viewing will also be available throughout the evening. Flagstaff residents (must show valid drivers license or utility bill) pay only half price for entrance into our regular evening programs. The Orion Nebula will be a featured object to view.

Fri 8 **Yardsticks for the Heavens** (regular evening hours) — Lowell Educator Drew Baumgartel will give a presentation at 7:00 p.m., *Yardsticks for the Heavens*, about both ancient and modern methods for measuring distances in space. Telescope viewing will also be available throughout the evening. The Orion Nebula will be a featured object to view.

Sun 17 **MLK Star Fest** (regular evening hours) This special event will feature indoor programs and numerous telescopes set up for viewing throughout the Lowell campus. The Orion Nebula will be a featured object to view.

Mon 18 **School's Out & Kids are Free** (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) — Lowell Observatory will be open for kids' activities throughout the day. Activities include science demonstrations; telescope viewing of the Sun; tours; and multimedia presentations. Children must be accompanied by an adult or responsible guardian.

February

Regular public hours: daytime noon-5 p.m.; nighttime M/W/F/Sat 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Wed 3 **Flagstaff Night** (regular evening hours) — On the first Wednesday Night of each month Lowell celebrates Flagstaff Night, highlighted by the Lowell Astronomer Series. Tonight astronomer Jeff Hall will discuss our Sun and Sun-like stars. In addition to this presentation telescope viewing will also be available, with Mars being a featured object. Flagstaff

residents (must show valid drivers license or utility bill) pay only half price for entrance into our regular evening programs.

Sun 14 **Winterfest Star Fest** (regular evening hours) — This special event will feature indoor programs and numerous telescopes set up for viewing throughout the Lowell campus. Mars will be a featured object to see.

Mon 15 **School's Out & Kids are Free** (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) — Lowell Observatory will be open throughout the day for fun kids' activities, including science demonstrations, telescope viewing of the Sun, tours, and multimedia presentations. Children must be accompanied by an adult or responsible guardian.

March

Regular public hours: daytime 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; nighttime M/W/F/Sat 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Wed 3 **Flagstaff Night** (regular evening hours) — On the first Wednesday Night of each month Lowell celebrates Flagstaff Night, highlighted by the Lowell Astronomer Series. Tonight astronomer Ted Bowell will present *Asteroid Impacts: How often do they occur and what can we do about them?*

Observe Mars, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe. Flagstaff residents (must show valid drivers license or utility bill) pay only half price for entrance into our regular evening programs.

Sat 20 ***The History of Women in Astronomy*** (regular evening hours) — To celebrate Women's History Month, the Coconino Astronomical Society is presenting *The History of Women in Astronomy* at 7:00 p.m. Barry Malpas will give an overview of many of the women, some overcoming great difficulties, who have contributed to astronomy over the centuries. Informal reception follows presentation. Several of Barry's antique astronomy books dating from 1797, either authored by or about specific women astronomers, will be on display. Free giveaway of a Galileo telescope to a woman or girl.

Observe Mars, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe.

Sun 28 **Spring Break Star Fest** (regular evening hours) — Observe Mars, Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe.

April

Regular public hours: daytime 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; nighttime M/W/F/Sat 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

- Thu 1 **Spring Break Star Fest** (regular evening hours) — Observe Mars, Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe.
- Wed 7 **Flagstaff Night** (regular evening hours) — On the first Wednesday Night of each month Lowell celebrates Flagstaff Night, highlighted by the Lowell Astronomer Series. Tonight retired educator and amateur astronomer Klaus Brasch will give a program, *Is Earth Unique?* Although astronomers have discovered well over 400 exoplanets around nearby stars, we continue to search for other Earth-like worlds in hopes of answering the age-old question “Are we alone in the universe?” Some argue that conditions favoring the evolution of advanced life on Earth are so unusual that we may be unique. Others note that given the billions of likely planets in our galaxy, intelligent life is probably widespread. We will examine both sides of the debate.
- Observe Mars, Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe. Flagstaff residents (must show valid drivers license or utility bill) pay only half price for entrance into our regular evening programs.
- Thu 8 **Spring Break Star Fest** (regular evening hours) — Observe Mars, Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe.
- Wed 21 **Lyrid Meteor Shower** (regular evening hours) — Indoor programs will focus on meteor showers such as the upcoming Lyrids. Also observe Mars, Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe.
- Sat 24 **National Astronomy Day** (regular day and evening hours) — The Coconino Astronomical Society and Lowell Observatory will celebrate National Astronomy Day with day and evening activities and prize giveaways. During the day we will offer tours, indoor presentations, scavenger hunts for the kids, and safe telescope viewing of the sun.

In the evening observe Mars, Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe.

May

Regular public hours: daytime 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; nighttime M/W/F/Sat 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Wed 5 **Flagstaff Night** (regular evening hours) — On the first Wednesday Night of each month Lowell celebrates Flagstaff Night, highlighted by the Lowell Astronomer Series. Tonight's programs begin with a presentation at 6:00 p.m. about the upcoming Eta Aquarid Meteor Shower, whose source is debris from Halley's Comet.

At 7:00 p.m. astronomer Kim Herrmann will give a presentation *Probing Spiral Galaxies with Planetary Nebula*, explaining the nature of planetary nebulae and how they may be used to learn about galaxies.

Observe Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe. Flagstaff residents (must show valid drivers license or utility bill) pay only half price for entrance into our regular evening programs.

Sun 9 **Mother's Day Star Fest** (regular evening hours) — All mothers are admitted for free! Observe Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe.

Sun 30 **Memorial Star Fest** (regular evening hours) — Tonight at 7 p.m., retired scientist Kent Colbath will give an indoor presentation, *Dinosaurs, Plankton and Asteroids: the Science of Studying Mass Extinctions*.

Observe Saturn, star clusters, nebulae, and more through both telescopes and via live video. Experience our portable planetarium and view indoor programs about our Universe. In addition to this presentation, we will feature numerous telescopes set up for viewing throughout the Lowell campus, with Saturn being a featured object to view.