

What's Up With the Astronomical League August 2020

Volume 14, Number 3

August 19, 2020

Compiled by Carroll Iorg, Vice President

Special Issue: Opportunities From Two of Our Partners, the Night Sky Network and Keck Observatory

The Night Sky Network has been a longtime collaborator with the League, and Keck Observatory, a previous collaborator, recently suggested making its lecture series available to League members again.



Confidence and Curiosity: Girls at the Telescope Online Workshop

Do you want to make your astronomy outreach more inclusive and get more girls interested in astronomy? Join us for a chance to reflect on our favorite hobby and improve our outreach to girls and all audiences!

NASA's funding has made possible new Space Science badges for Girl Scouts that include a connection to local astronomy clubs and science centers. The Astronomical Society of the Pacific is working with astronomy clubs and enthusiasts to better understand Girl Scout culture and make the girls' experiences stellar.

The ASP is holding training sessions to empower outreach leaders (that's you!) to more effectively engage girls in astronomy. Learn actions and methods, rooted in research, that focus and support girls' interest in science. These strategies have also been proven to work with other learners—everyone benefits from a gender-equitable approach! We know many of you already do great work with Girl Scouts and other groups of girls. We would love for you to share your expertise and participate in our workshop. Together we will make outreach more welcoming and inclusive to all audiences, including those who may feel left out of astronomy.

The workshop includes:

Research-based best practices for a welcoming and inclusive stargazing experience

Tips on helping girls feel safe and comfortable through actions and words

Chances to chat with like-minded astronomers who want to be more inclusive

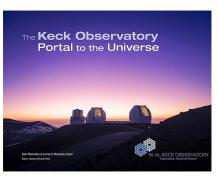
An overview of the new Space Science Badges and Girl Scout culture

Hands-on activities for online and in-person events

This free workshop includes a participatory community forum Sept. 14 to Oct. 2 (application deadline Aug. 30). The workshop includes three 1-hour-length live sessions on Wednesdays, Sept. 16, 23, and 30 at 6 pm PT/9 pm ET. Expect about a 5- to 6-hour commitment over 3 weeks. Thank you for your dedication to making astronomy welcoming for everyone.

To apply or to indicate interest for a potential future workshop, please fill out this brief form: https://forms.gle/MNeHVM1qc7mBSL5M7

It's a signature event that spans more than 15 years; W. M. Keck Observatory's Astronomy Talk series, held nearly every month, features guest speakers from the Observatory's global



network of brilliant scientists. In its long-standing commitment to share with Hawaii and the world the exciting new knowledge obtained from its twin 10-meter telescopes on Hawaii Island's majestic Maunakea, Keck Observatory's astronomy talks bring the very latest astronomical discoveries and cutting-edge technology that are revolutionizing the field. All talks are recorded for the public; see the videos by visiting www.keckobservatory.org/media/cosmic-videos and

learn more about the groundbreaking research being conducted at one of the most scientifically productive telescopes on Earth!

W. M. Keck Observatory Astronomy Talks are sponsored by the Rob and Terry Ryan Foundation.





The Astronomy Talks feature distinguished guest speakers such as Dr. Kip Thorne, world-renowned theoretical astrophysicist, 2017 Nobel Physics Prize Laureate, and executive producer of Hollywood blockbuster film *Interstellar*, as well as Dr. Andrea Ghez, world-leading expert in observational astrophysics, director of UCLA Galactic Center Group, and professor of physics and astronomy at UCLA.