



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF ASTRONOMY 2009



THE UNIVERSE : YOURS TO DISCOVER

How the Public Can Get Involved in IYA

Whether you are a newcomer or an astronomy enthusiast, here are some ideas for how you can participate in the International Year of Astronomy 2009, celebrating 400 years since Galileo began observing the heavens through his telescope.

- Visit the international IYA2009 website and watch the movie trailer. (www.astronomy2009.org). Also visit the website of the IYA2009-affiliated program *400 Years of the Telescope* (www.pbs.org/400years/) and watch the trailer. The program will be shown on PBS and at planetariums around the world starting April 10, 2009.
- Visit the U.S. IYA2009 website (www.astronomy2009.us) and click on the “Get Involved” link to see how different groups such as parents, teachers, professors, enthusiasts and more are jumping in.
- Contact your local astronomy club, planetarium or science museum. A list of astronomy organizations can be found on these websites:
 - www.skytonight.com/community/organizations
 - www.astronomyclubs.com
 - www.skyandtelescope.com/community/organizations
 - nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/club-map.cfm
- Participate in star counting events to raise awareness about dark skies and light pollution:
 - How Many Stars – an ongoing global citizen science program (www.sternhell.at)
 - Great World Wide Star Count, October 9-23, 2009, and October every year (www.starcount.org)
 - GLOBE at Night, March near new moon every year (www.globe.gov/GaN/)
 - Earth Hour, March every year (www.earthhour.org)
- Host a neighborhood star party and get the families on your block excited about looking through a telescope. (www.jsc.nasa.gov/sightings/) Use these helpful IYA Discovery guides and activities (www.astrosociety.org/iya/guides.html). Join the international star party Galilean Nights during October 22-24, 2009. (www.galileannights.org)
- You can find IYA2009 logos on shirts, mugs, stickers and other items at these online stores. Proceeds will support IYA2009 educational programs!
www.cafepress.com/astronomy2009 store for the main IYA2009 international logos
www.zazzle.com/aasiya store for U.S. IYA2009 logos

**Please visit the U.S. International Year of Astronomy website: www.astronomy2009.us
and the International Year of Astronomy website: www.astronomy2009.org**