

# Department of Astronomy, University of Maryland

## Observatory Open House Schedule

### Summer 2015

Our **Open House** program will continue this summer just as it has for the last 40+ years. Come see local astronomers give a short 30-minute presentation about their research or other new developments in astronomy! The talk is then followed by observing through the telescopes, **weather permitting**.

Observatory Open Houses are *free*. Families/individuals do not need reservations. However we ask that if you have a group larger than 10 people, **please** call 301-405-6555 to make special arrangements at least two weeks in advance. *Group tours are by appointment!*

#### Questions?

For more information, check out the Observatory webpages at [www.astro.umd.edu/openhouse](http://www.astro.umd.edu/openhouse) or call 301-405-6555.

Date & Time	Speaker	Talk Title
5 May 9:00 pm	(Dr. M Hayes-Gehrke)	Asteroid Rotation Period Results from ASTR 315 Student Research
20 May 9:00 pm	Dr. Lan Jian	STEREO Mission
5 June 9:00 pm	Dr. Haihong Che	Solar Wind
20 June 9:00 pm	Dr. Alan Peel	Do we really only understand 4% of the Universe?
5 July 9:00 pm	Dr. Eleonora Troja	Cosmic Crashes: the Many Facets of Neutron Star Collisions
20 July 9:00 pm	Dr. Laura Blecha	Galaxies and Supermassive Black Holes: Frenemies Forever
5 August 9:00 pm	Alice Allen	Behind and Beyond APOD
20 August 9:00 pm	Dr. Mike Kelley	Water, Carbon Dioxide, and Comets
<b>SNEAK PEEK at the Fall Schedule!</b>		
5 September 9:00 pm	Dr. Cole Miller	Crushed, Fried, and Spaghettified: Why You Shouldn't Get Too Close to a Black Hole
20 September 9:00 pm	Dr. Silvia Protopapa	New Horizons

Other special events for the summer and next fall:

- [Learn the Sky Nights 2015](#) Tues 16, 23, 30 June, 7, 14, 21 Jul  
**Registration opens soon!**

**Details for special events will be posted on our website!**

Information: Call 301-405-6555 for more information,  
or check out the Observatory web site at

[www.astro.umd.edu/openhouse](http://www.astro.umd.edu/openhouse)

<https://www.facebook.com/UMObservatory> and on Twitter as @UM\_Obs

Dear UMD Observatory Friend,

Thank you for visiting tonight! We hope you enjoyed the lecture program as well as the tour of the observatory and hopefully the observing if the weather cooperated.

You can keep up with UMD Observatory activities by signing up for the electronic "newsletter." I try to limit how often I send messages out to an average of 2/month but this includes notices of special observing opportunities, special observatory programs and classes, and anything else really cool in astronomy. If you are on Facebook, you can also become a fan, just search for UMD Observatory.

Many of our visitors have asked how they can help the UMD Observatory since we don't charge a fee for Open Houses. Well, we have two funds in the UMCP Foundation to which you can contribute:

- [Justin DeSha-Overcash Summer Research Award](#) (#21962)  
The Justin DeSha-Overcash Summer Research Award assists an undergraduate student pursuing research opportunities in Astronomy, Physics, or Geology and also demonstrates a service component to the community. This award honors the memory of Justin, one of our undergraduate student staff, by providing an out of state student who is financially needy a stipend to conduct summer research here at Maryland.
- Astronomy Observatory Gift Fund (#21684)  
This fund is used to repair, upgrade, and purchase new hardware as needed by the UMD Observatory. In 2011, we upgraded the mount for the 7" refractor, bought new cameras for the 14" and 7" telescopes. In 2012, we got new filters for the cameras, and in 2013, we got a new video camera for observing occultations.

We want to make sure you get recognized for helping us. Please consider making an "official" donation via the UMCP Foundation. A form is printed below, just fill it out, cut or tear it off and send it in with a check.

Clear Skies!

Elizabeth Warner  
UMD Observatory Coordinator

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Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:  
Please mail check(s) and form(s) to:

**University of Maryland College Park Foundation**  
*Elizabeth Warner*  
*Department of Astronomy*  
*University of Maryland*  
*College Park, MD 20742*

Dear UMCPF:

Please accept this gift in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. The amount is designated to support  
\_\_\_\_\_ Justin DeSha-Overcash Summer Research Award (#21962)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Astronomy Observatory Gift Fund (#21684)

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_