

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
ASTRONOMY
2009
needs you!



THE UNIVERSE , YOURS TO DISCOVER



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



International
Astronomical
Union



**Get involved with your IYA2009
National Activities**

Isle educators prepare for the International Year of Astronomy

2009 celebration to honor 400 years of seeking answers in the sky

Forty-one educators from across the Big Island attended the recent International Year of Astronomy Teacher's Workshop, the first such program to be held in Hawaii.

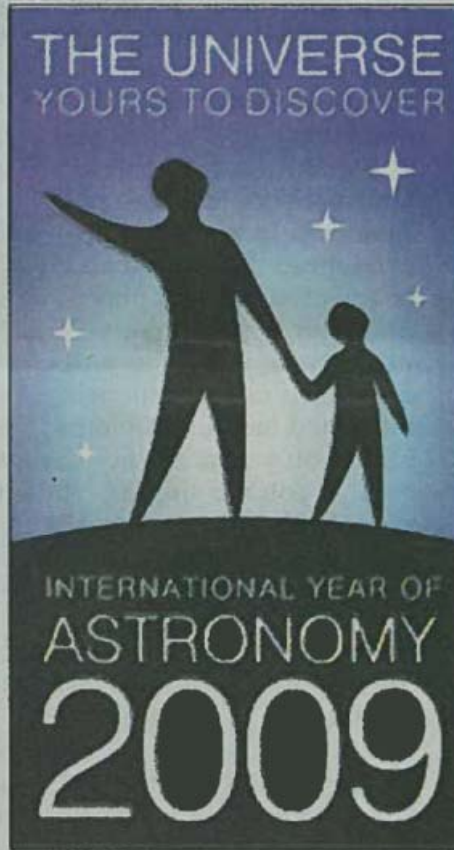
The workshop was part of the worldwide celebration leading up to the 2009 International Year of Astronomy, honoring 400 years of the telescope's advancement of astronomy.

The workshop was sponsored by Gemini Observatory, TMT (Thirty Meter Telescope), Big Island Toyota and the NELHA (Natural Energy Lab) at Keahole, which hosted the contingent. For more information,

visit www.iau2009.org. The celebration, with a strong emphasis on education, public engagement and the involvement of young people, with events at national, regional and global levels throughout the whole of 2009," said IAU President Catherine Cesarsky.

UNESCO, the International Council of Science and the United Nations all have endorsed the celebration.

"Astronomy is one of the oldest fundamental sciences," said Cesarsky.



our galaxy and we are moving towards an understanding of how life might have first appeared.

"One hundred years ago we studied the sky using only optical telescopes and photographic plates. Today we observe the Universe from Earth and from

astronomical experiences as we all celebrate the International Year of Astronomy 2009," said Cesarsky.

The vision of IYA2009 coordinators is to help the citizens of the world "rediscover their place in the Universe through the day- and night-time sky, and thereby engage a personal sense of wonder and discovery. All humans should realize the impact of astronomy and basic sciences on our daily lives, and understand better how scientific knowledge can contribute to a more equitable and peaceful society."

It will be a global celebration of astronomy and its contributions to society and culture, highlighted by the 400th anniversary of the first use of an astronomical telescope by Galileo.

"We want to promote widespread access to the universal knowledge of fundamental science through the excitement of astronomy and sky-observing experiences," said coordinators. Locally, and globally, project leaders want to enable as many people as possible, especially children, to look at the sky through a telescope and

Write an article about astronomy or IYA2009 in your local newspaper.

edu. "The Universe, Yours to Discover," is the theme officials

last few decades. One hundred years ago we barely knew of the existence of our own Milky

discoveries are frontpage news throughout the world. The IYA2009 will meet public



Help organise star parties or open doors, particularly during 100 Hours of Astronomy.

CAFÉ SCIENCE

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WITH COLUMBIA PROFESSORS

PICNIC CAFÉ, 2665 BROADWAY, NYC



Give talks to local astronomy clubs, science centres, schools, planetariums, cultural centres and astrocafés.

COLUMBIA SCIENCE
CONNECTION



THE BLOGGERS



Mercury



About the Cosmic Diary ▾



A busy week in Portugal...

posted by **Joana Ascenso** in **astronomy**, **science communication** & **stars**

I've had quite a week where I work, in the Centro de Astrofísica da universidade do Porto, Portugal. We've been carrying out some interesting research about stellar nurseries which has made me very happy because it's my specialist subject! So after many sleepless nights working hard, I've decided it's time to sit down and let you all in on what's been happening.

→ read more

Some tourist tips for adventurous travellers

posted by **Brother Guy Consolmagno** in **tourism** & **observatories**

My colleagues and I work very hard here at the Vatican Observatory, but we try to take some time out to relax when we can. There's so much to see and do in the area, I thought it would be a good idea to write a little bit about the tourist hotspots, so if you ever decide to visit you'll be able to make the most of my insider information! So the first place on my



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Gruber Foundation's
Blog at **Cosmic**



Determining the structure of the Universe
— by *Sir Martin Rees*

We live in the Milky Way, one of galaxies in the Universe
— by *Dr. Vera Rubin*

Mysterious dark energy has set the astronomical world buzzing
— by *Dr. Brian Schmidt*

The Sun is shining, hooray!

posted by **Saskia Hekker** in **astronomy**, **the sun** & **science communication**

The weather's been so beautiful here in Belgium lately, I've decided to write this blog in the park near the observatory where I work. The bright Sun may make it difficult to see my laptop screen, but it means we can get some brilliant views of the sunspots we've been seeing. I've taken some photos of my colleagues using the telescopes to get observations



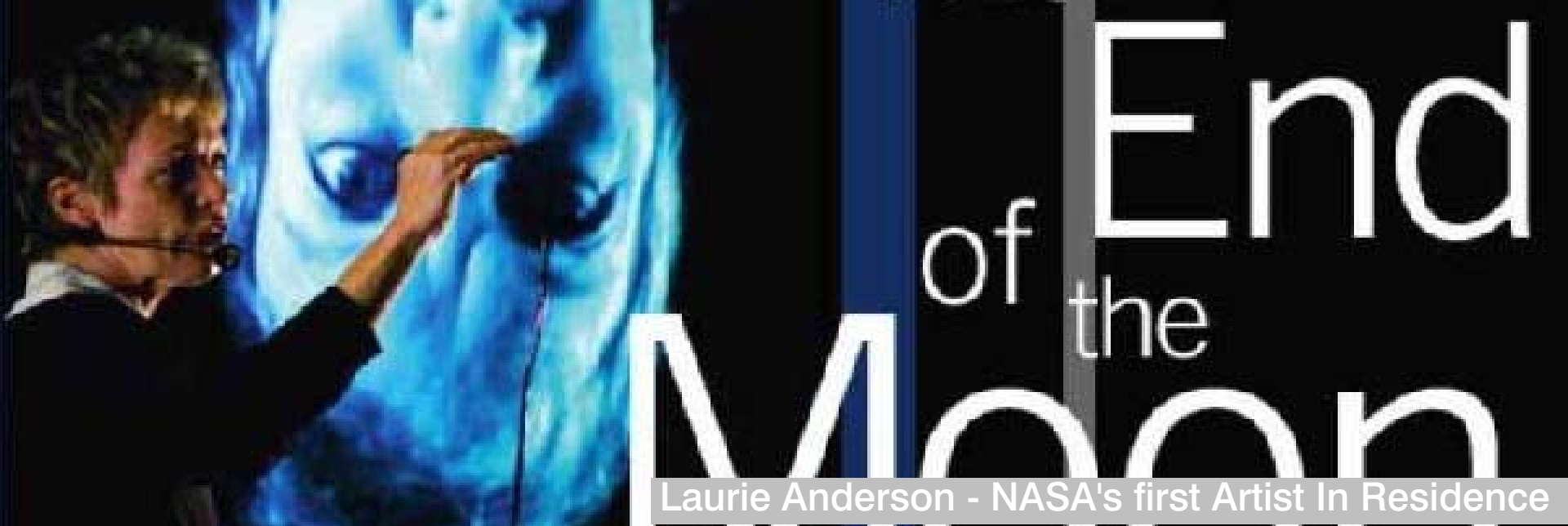
IYA2009
NEWS







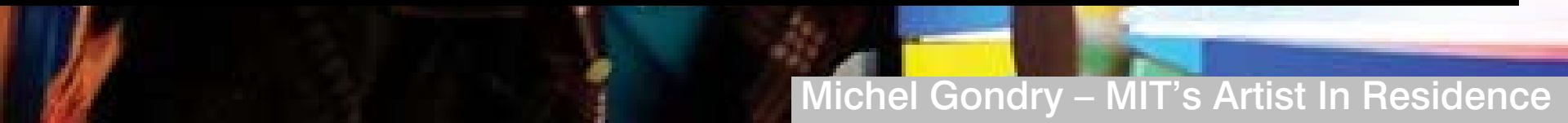
Encourage work experience for high school and undergrad students in your institution.



Laurie Anderson - NASA's first Artist In Residence



Encourage “artists in residence” programme in the organisations or institutions.



Michel Gondry – MIT's Artist In Residence



Host exhibitions of astronomical images produced by your institution or From Earth to the Universe or The World at Night.



Liaise with partner organisations, share resources and mount joint events.





Our dream is to see every astronomer in the world involved in the International Year of Astronomy 2009.



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www.astronomy2009.org

IAU IYA 2009 Secretariat

ESA/Hubble/ESO – Munich – Germany

Contact:

Pedro Russo

prusso@eso.org

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