



IYA2009 Astrophotography Opportunities

Galilean Nights Astrophotography Competition

www.galileannights.org and <http://www.flickr.com/groups/galileannights>

September 17-October 27

Aimed at encouraging people to make astrophotography part of their astronomy hobby, the competition is focused on the objects that Galileo observed and will consist of two categories, "Earth and Sky" and "Beyond Earth".

Earth and Sky: To highlight the link between the Earth and our astronomical neighborhood, entries to this category must show part of the surface of the Earth with one or more of the Galilean Objects in the sky above. This category would enable those new to astronomy/astrophotography to enter without the need for access to complex equipment or telescopes.

Beyond Earth: Entries to this category must show one or more of the Galilean Objects, but not show any aspect of the Earth. Use of a small telescope (up to 20cm or 8 inches) is permitted in this category.

Galileoscope Images

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/galileoscope/>

Everyone is invited and encouraged to post images taken through their Galileoscopes at this site.

Astronomy Photographer of the Year

www.nmm.ac.uk/visit/exhibitions/astronomy-photographer-of-the-year/

This annual contest presented by the Royal Observatory, Greenwich is a free competition and exhibition for anyone who loves the night sky. Entries for 2009 are now closed but you can visit the website to see all of the photos submitted and details for the 2010 contest entry dates.

Smithsonian Photography Initiative

click.si.edu June 2009 theme is "Seeing Other Worlds"

The Smithsonian Photography Initiative invites the public to contribute images and stories to "click! photography changes everything" (click.si.edu), an online exhibit that explores how photography influences every aspect of people's lives. The June 2009 focus is "Seeing Other Worlds." How does micro- and macro- photography (e.g. from microscopic bacteria to galaxies far beyond the earth) change our perception of the world and our place in it?

(This is an ongoing project with different monthly themes. You can submit your photo and story anytime to be considered for the click! website. Submissions are reviewed and featured on a monthly basis.)

Past Astrophotography Contests

The Earth and Sky Photo Contest on Dark Skies Importance

www.darkskiesawareness.org deadline September 21, 2009

This photography contest is open to any amateur photographer of any age, anywhere in the world. The theme of this contest is "Dark Skies Importance." Photos must combine some elements of the night sky (e.g., stars, planets, the Moon or celestial events) set against the backdrop of a beautiful, historic, or notable location or landmark somewhere in the world.

Photographs must be taken during 2009, the International Year of Astronomy, and submitted by September 21, 2009. Winners will be announced on October 31, 2009. Details on this program, including the site to submit photos, can be found at www.darkskiesawareness.org.

Capture the Colorful Cosmos with MicroObservatory Robotic Telescopes

www.universeforum.org/iyacosmos/ July - September 2009

The Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA), NASA, and the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) are collaborating on the "Capture the Colorful Cosmos" astrophotography project. This program will give the public online access to the CfA's MicroObservatory robotic telescopes, to take photographs of astronomical objects, and use image processing tools the same way that professional astronomers do.

Participating museums, nature centers, libraries, and other informal education organizations will run public workshops that result in exhibitions of original visitor-created astrophotography displays. These images and displays will be featured not only at the participating institutions, but also on ASTC, IYA, and NASA websites.

For Informal Educators: ASTC will host an online workshop in July 2009 about how to implement Capture the Colorful Cosmos.

See details at: www.universeforum.org/iyacosmos/