



# INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF ASTRONOMY 2009

THE UNIVERSE : YOURS TO DISCOVER



## How Planetaria, Science/Visitors Centers and Observatories Can Get Involved in IYA

If you represent a planetarium, science/visitors center or astronomical observatory, 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. We hope that the programs and connections that come out of IYA2009 will continue for many years to come!

### Ways to get involved and learn more about IYA right away:

- Visit the international IYA2009 website; watch the IYA2009 movie trailer, and show it while an audience is waiting for other events to begin. ([www.astronomy2009.org](http://www.astronomy2009.org))
- Visit the U.S. IYA2009 website for new developments, programs and materials ([www.astronomy2009.us](http://www.astronomy2009.us)). Also see NASA's website ([astronomy2009.nasa.gov/](http://astronomy2009.nasa.gov/)), which has a monthly calendar of suggested objects to observe and related activities.
- Visit the website of the IYA2009-affiliated program *400 Years of the Telescope* ([www.pbs.org/400years/](http://www.pbs.org/400years/)), watch the trailer, and sign up for the program's monthly newsletter. Other free newsletters with IYA2009 and astronomy updates are written by the Astronomical Society of the Pacific ([www.astrosociety.org/pubs/newsletter.html](http://www.astrosociety.org/pubs/newsletter.html)) and Universe Today ([www.universetoday.com/](http://www.universetoday.com/), sign up on the right-side toolbar).
- Adapt existing astronomical programming and cross-promote programs with IYA2009 for increased impact (local, national and international).
- Participate in the IYA2009 working group for Planetaria, Science/Visitors Centers and Observatories by contacting Peter Michaud (Gemini Observatory, Chair at: [pmichaud@gemini.edu](mailto:pmichaud@gemini.edu)) or Shawn Laatsch (Imiloa Astronomy Center, Co-chair at: [slaatsch@imiloahawaii.org](mailto:slaatsch@imiloahawaii.org)).
- Use IYA2009 logos on your website(s) as an "IYA Supporter"; U.S. logos are available at [www.astronomy2009.us/newscenter/logo-graphics](http://www.astronomy2009.us/newscenter/logo-graphics), and international logos are available at [www.astronomy2009.org/resources/](http://www.astronomy2009.org/resources/).

Please visit the U.S. International Year of Astronomy website:  
and the International Year of Astronomy website:

[www.astronomy2009.us](http://www.astronomy2009.us)  
[www.astronomy2009.org](http://www.astronomy2009.org)

# International Year of Astronomy 2009

## How Planetaria, Science/Visitors Centers and Observatories Can Get Involved in IYA, cont.

<b>How your institution can get involved in IYA for 2009 and beyond:</b>
--

- Show a planetarium program that has been developed for IYA2009.
  - *Two Small Pieces of Glass* - produced by Interstellar Studios, Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawaii, and Buhl Planetarium - has both traditional and full-dome versions available.  
([www.400years.org](http://www.400years.org) and click on the Planetarium tab)
  - *Let There be Night* planetarium program features original narrated video that can be shown in a planetarium or be used as a stand-alone video.  
([www.LetTherebeNight.org](http://www.LetTherebeNight.org) and click on the Planetarium tab)
  - *In Search of Our Cosmic Origins* will be available in many languages in traditional and full-dome versions.  
([www.cosmicorigins.org](http://www.cosmicorigins.org))
- 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](http://www.sternhell.at))
  - Great World Wide Star Count, October 9-23, 2009, and October every year  
([www.starcount.org](http://www.starcount.org))
  - GLOBE at Night, March near new moon every year ([www.globe.gov/GaN/](http://www.globe.gov/GaN/))
  - Earth Hour, March every year ([www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org))
- Print out or install a "From Earth to the Universe" astronomy image exhibit.  
([www.fromearthtotheuniverse.org/](http://www.fromearthtotheuniverse.org/))
- Hold star parties and/or sidewalk astronomy IYA2009 events on these dates:
  - October 22-24, Galilean Nights ([www.galileannights.org](http://www.galileannights.org))
  - December 31, Once in a Blue Moon - IYA2009 Closing EventsSee [www.astronomy2009.us/howtohost/](http://www.astronomy2009.us/howtohost/) to "Pick a Date" for other events.
- The "How to Get Involved in IYA2009" webpage has handouts for groups such as teachers, families, amateur astronomers, home school groups and more.  
([www.astronomy2009.us/getinvolved/](http://www.astronomy2009.us/getinvolved/))
- Make sure your organization is listed in national online directories, such as:  
[www.skyandtelescope.com/community/organizations](http://www.skyandtelescope.com/community/organizations)  
[www.astronomy.com/asy/community/groups/](http://www.astronomy.com/asy/community/groups/)  
[www.astroleague.org/al/general/society.html](http://www.astroleague.org/al/general/society.html)  
[nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/club-map.cfm](http://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/club-map.cfm)

Please visit the U.S. International Year of Astronomy website:  
and the International Year of Astronomy website:

[www.astronomy2009.us](http://www.astronomy2009.us)  
[www.astronomy2009.org](http://www.astronomy2009.org)