The Astrophile Newsletter

One Fond of Starlore: An Amateur Astronomer

Insta: @astrophile_edu; Facebook: @astrophileeducation Twitter: @astrophileedu

Global Astronomy Month 2021

From April 1 till April 30, we have organised many events and activities for students to participate and celebrate GAM

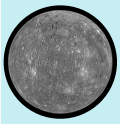
The month long annual celebrations of astronomy and the sky, Global Astronomy Month has started on April 1 and Astrophile Education is doing every bit to encourage students to participate and enjoy this global event.

We organised several events activities in which the students can participate. Prior registration is mandatory and it is FREE of cost. The submissions can be shared with us at astrophileevents@icloud.com. You can read more about the events and activities at https://astro-phile.com/gam2021/. You can also submit your creativity by tagging us on social media and using hashtag (#) aesgam2021.

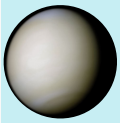
Moon phases and dates

Important phases and dates for Moon to plan your observation

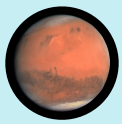
12/04/21	New Moon	08:00
20/04/21	First Quarter	12:28
27/04/21	Half Moon	09:01
04/05/21	Third Quarter	01:20



Mercury
Mercury is very close to Sun as it transits from morning to evening skies. This is why Mercury shall not be visible to untrained eyes this month.

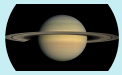


Venus
Venus is very close to Sun as it transits from morning to evening skies. This is why Mercury shall not be visible to untrained eyes this month.



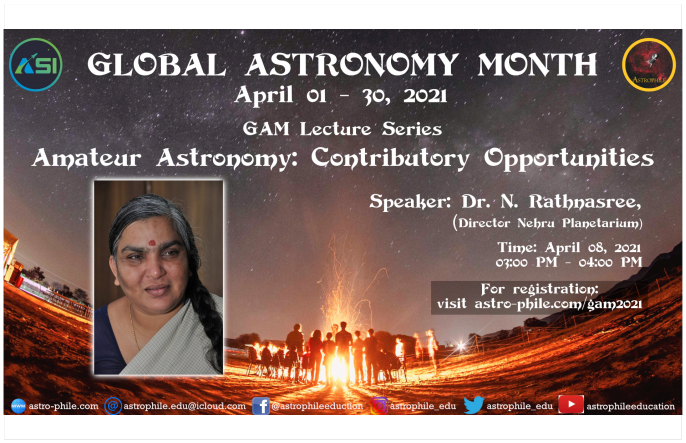
Mars
The red planet will be visible in the evening hours till midnight and shine very bright in the sky this month.

Jupiter
Jupiter will be visible this month about 2-3 hours before Sunrise and hence shall offer good views in the east for early morning people.



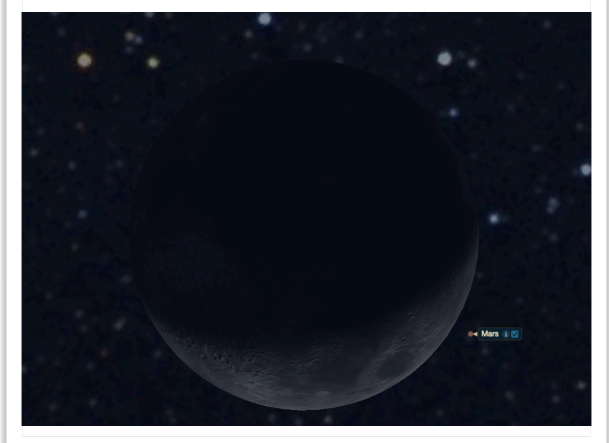
Saturn
Saturn will be visible this month about 2-3 hours before Sunrise and hence shall offer good views in the east for early morning people.

Astronomy lectures for astronomy enthusiast



We are excited to bring to you a very exciting talk by the Director, Nehru planetarium Delhi, Dr. N. Rathnasree who will be shedding some light on contributory opportunities by amateur astronomy community.
The talk will cover several aspects of amateur astronomy community and the contributions being made by them towards the community.
The talk is scheduled for April 08, 2021 from 3:00pm to 4:00 PM. If your students have certain questions that they need to ask, they are welcome to share the same with us. Registration is necessary and selected students will get an opportunity to interact live over Zoom while others will get to view the talk live on our YouTube channel. For registrations and more details, please visit: https://astro-phile.com/gam2021/

Lunar Occultation of Mars in the daylight.



This April, Mars is playing hide and seek with many celestial objects however the one particular instance of our interest is on April 17, 2021 when the red planet will disappear behind the Moon for about an hour. The disappearance event will occur at 6:02:50 PM while the reappearance event will take place at 7:05:00 PM.
The disappearance will happen while the Sun is in the sky making the sky bright enough that the viewing of planet is not visible to naked eyes. The reappearance will take place during the twilight sky where the planet can be seen easily using a small telescope or binoculars.
Another noticeable alignment is when Mars will be about half a degree away from the open cluster M35 in Gemini.
Astrophile Education will aim to broadcast the event on our YouTube channel.

BRING BACK DARK SKIES - CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECT FOR EVERY INDIAN

Science is for the benefit of the community and hence the participation of community is very important. With that in mind, Astrophile Education Services started a Pan-India Citizen Science Project called "Bring Back dark Skies".
The project encourage participation from the people even if they have very little or no knowledge of the sky. The participation require oneself to measure the amount of light pollution by counting the number of stars visible in a specific constellation during the moonless time of the month and report the same back to us on our website.
The projects aims to collect the data of stars visible in the sky by estimates the amount of light pollution in your area. The estimations and the study will be provided to various state and central government departments which can help us eradicate the light pollution and hence bring back the dark skies so that more and more people can enjoy the majestic skies.
Light pollution has slow but harmful effects not only on humans but also on birds, animals and insects. The ambient light has affected the pattern of humans and animals a like and this irreparable damage will only get worse in the times to come.
To learn more about the same, please visit: https://astro-phile.com/bring-back-dark-skies/