

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

College of Science presents

MASON SPACE DAY

Sunday, October 22, 2023

EVENT SCHEDULE

[SCIENCE.GMU.EDU/MASONSPACEDAY](https://science.gmu.edu/masonspaceday)



BAE SYSTEMS

BLACK(SKY

NOVAC
NON-TOXIC VACUUM ACT SANDWICH CASE

SPEC
INNOVATIONS

GDIT

The Delawie Family

Jared Harris & Patrick O'Neil

EVENT SCHEDULE • October 22, 2023

MASON CENTER FOR THE ARTS AUDITORIUM

2:30 p.m.

DOORS OPEN

3 to 3:30 p.m.

EVENT OVERVIEW

*Peter Plavchan, Associate Professor
Department of Physics and Astronomy
College of Science, George Mason University*

DEAN'S WELCOME

*Fernando Miralles-Wilhelm
Dean, College of Science, George Mason University*

3:30 p.m.

OPENING KEYNOTE—THE WEBB TELESCOPE: A YEAR OF ASTOUNDING DISCOVERIES, AND MIND-BLOWING NEW QUESTIONS

*Michelle Thaller, Assistant Director of NASA Science
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center*

Immediately following the address, photograph and autograph opportunities available for a limited time outside the auditorium.

4:15 p.m.

GOING BACK TO THE MOON AND MARS

*Steve Dam, President and Chief Operating Officer
SPEC Innovations*

4:30 p.m.

SPACE WEATHER

*Robert Weigel, Professor, Physics and Astronomy
George Mason University*

4:45 p.m.

THE FUTURE OF SPACE

*Joseph Pelton, Chairman of the Board,
Alliance for Collaboration in the Exploration of Space*

5:10 p.m.

CAELUS ROCKETRY

*Harika Akundi, President
Aarushi Bommidi, Alan Zhu, Shaurya Jain, Kiran Donnelly,
Arjun Babla, and Kritagya Khadka*

6:15 p.m.

MASON FACULTY PANEL TODAY'S CHALLENGES—TOMORROW'S OPPORTUNITIES

*Anamaria Berea, Associate Professor, Computational and Data Sciences,
Mason College of Science*

*Hakeem Oluseyi (Moderator), Research Professor,
Physics and Astronomy, Mason College of Science*

*Piotr Pachowicz, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering,
Mason College of Engineering and Computing*

*Donglian Sun, Professor, Geography and Geoinformation Science,
Mason College of Science*

*Erdal Yiğit, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy
Mason College of Science*

7:10 p.m.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS—THE FUTURE OF SPACE EXPLORATION

Charles Bolden, Retired astronaut and NASA administrator

Immediately following the address, photograph and autograph opportunities available for a limited time outside the auditorium.

CENTER FOR THE ARTS LOBBY ACTIVITIES

3 to 9 p.m.

BOOTH AND EXHIBIT HALL

Visit participating organizations for information, games, and free giveaways

MASON PLANETARIUM SHOWS

In the Center for the Arts Lobby (every 20 minutes, 20 people max per tour)

OBSERVATORY TOURS AND INTERSTELLAR DREAMS SPACE CENTER ACTIVITIES

*Tours last about 1 hour. Sign up at the Observatory and
Interstellar Dreams Space Center tables in the lobby.*

4:30 p.m.

MEET AND GREET

*Michelle Thaller, Assistant Director of NASA Science
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center*

5:30 p.m.

BOOK SIGNING

*Joseph Pelton, Chairman of the Board, Alliance for Collaboration
in the Exploration of Space*

8:15 p.m.

MEET AND GREET

Charles Bolden, Retired astronaut and NASA administrator

BOOTH AND EXHIBIT HALL LISTING

MASON CENTER FOR THE ARTS LOBBY

Analemma Society
Audubon Society
BAE Systems
Because Science
Caelus Rocketry
George Mason University—College of Science
Dark Sky Friends
DarkSky NOVA and DarkSky International
Fairfax County Park Authority
General Dynamics Information Technology
Intelsat
Interstellar Dreams Space Center and Pearl Project Institute
Mason Observatory
NOVAC (Northern Virginia Astronomy Club)
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Smithsonian Associates
Smithsonian Explainers Program
SPEC Innovations
Space Weather Group
U.S. Naval Research Laboratory

MASON CENTER FOR THE ARTS GRAND TIER II

Chemistry Club
Friends of the Observatory
Planetary Geology
Physics and Astronomy Society
Weather Club

HOLTON PLAZA

Cream to Go
DC Steakholders
Gringo Gordo (Fresh Connections)
Koi Tea
Yummie Food Company (GeDunk Food Truck)

*A portion of the proceeds from food sales
will go to Mason Space Day*



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

CIS-LUNAR SPONSOR (\$1,000)

BAE Systems
BlackSky
NOVAC (Northern Virginia
Astronomy Club)

GEO SPONSOR (\$500)

SPEC Innovations
Jared Harris & Patrick O'Neil
General Dynamics
Information Technology
The Delawie Family

LEO SPONSOR (\$250)

Dark Sky Friends
DarkSky NOVA
Dark Sky International
Intelsat

KARMAN LINE (\$100)

Judy Bassett
Joan White

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Analemma Society
Audubon Society
Because Science
Mason Chemistry Club
George Mason University—College of Science
Dark Sky Friends
DarkSky NOVA and Dark Sky International
DC Steakholders
Fairfax County Park Authority
Friends of the Observatory
Gringo Gordo (Fresh Connections)
Interstellar Dreams Space Center and
Pearl Project Institute
Koi Tea
Mason Observatory
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Physics and Astronomy Society
Mason Planetary Geology

Caelus Rocketry
Smithsonian Associates
Smithsonian Explainers Program
Mason Space Weather Group
U.S. Naval Research Laboratory
Mason Weather Club
Yummie Food Company (GeDunk Food Truck)

SUPPORT OBSERVATORY AND MASON SPACE DAY

Whether you volunteer your time,
become a community partner,
or make a gift at any level, there
are many ways to demonstrate
support for Science at Mason.

