



2ND ANNUAL SOUTHWEST ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

EVENT SCHEDULE ★ SEPTEMBER 7-9, 2018

Use #SWAstroFest to share your Southwest Astronomy Festival experiences!

Go to: go.nps.gov/swastrofest for even more information!

FRIDAY SEPT. 7TH - IRON COUNTY

Noon: APEX Space Debates

Join us for a series of exciting debates on: 1) Should we go to Mars? 2) Should we clean up the space junk overhead? 3) Should we try to connect with possible alien civilizations? Audience members encouraged to ask questions. ★ 12-2 pm @ Hunter Conference Center in the Great Hall (305-557 W. University Blvd, Cedar City, UT)



Noon: Sun Party at SUMA

Join the Ashcroft Observatory team at the Southern Utah Museum of Art for a special viewing of the Sun, a planet walk, making your own Sun prints, and chalk art! ★ 12-4 pm @ SUMA (13 S. 300 W. Cedar City, UT)

3 pm: Dark Sky Discussion

There's no astronomy without dark skies, but how do you protect dark skies? Join us for snacks and hob nob with dark sky protectors from all over Utah. ★ 3-4 pm @ Cedar City Public Library (303 N. 100 E. Cedar City, UT)

6 pm: Astronomy Extravaganza

Fun for the whole family, with lots of kid-friendly activities! Climb into SUU's Planetarium, build your own constellations, and make a Weird Worlds model. After the indoor festivities, we'll look through telescopes at the real stars! ★ 6-9 pm @ North Elementary (550 W. 200 N. Cedar City, UT)

FRIDAY SEPT. 7TH - PIPE SPRING AREA, AZ

1 pm (AZ time): Solar Telescope Viewing of Ta-vaw (the Sun)

There will be a solar telescope set up at the visitor center. Come have a close look at the sun, and learn some Paiute perspectives about its significance. Please be aware that Interagency Annual Passes will be accepted for monument entry; all others will be **\$7 per person** age 16 and older. ★ 1-3 pm AZ time (2-4 pm UT time) @ Pipe Spring National Monument (406 N. Pipe Spring Rd. Fredonia, AZ)



FRIDAY SEPT. 7TH - WASHINGTON COUNTY

10 am: Southern Utah Bat Chat

Come learn about bats! If you can't make the presentation stop by the Visitor Center between 8 am and 5 pm to grab information on animals of the area, pick up a map of trails, and see live animals such as a Mojave Desert Tortoise and Gila monster. ★ 10-10:30 am @ Red Cliffs Desert Reserve (10 N. 100 E. St. George, UT)

11:30 am: Beyond the Light

Discover what it's like to be an Artist-in-Residence in the true wilderness of the remote Parashant International Night Sky Province. ★ 11:30 am-12:30 pm @ Public Lands Office (345 E. Riverside Dr. St George, UT)

1 pm: Parashant Ranger Talk

Learn how to find habitable real-estate in space and meet your extra-terrestrial neighbors. If you have the urge to explore the universe, this is the ranger talk for you! ★ 1-2 pm @ Public Lands Office (345 E. Riverside Dr. St George, UT)



2 pm: Southern Utah Bat Chat

Come learn about bats! If you can't make the presentation stop by the Visitor Center between 8 am and 5 pm to grab information on animals of the area, pick up a map of trails, and see live animals such as a Mojave Desert Tortoise and Gila monster. ★ 2-2:30 pm @ Red Cliffs Desert Reserve (10 N. 100 E. St. George, UT)

5 pm: Junior Ranger Night

Join us for Junior Ranger Night, an indoor planetarium, astronomy talks and a Sun Party before the Sun goes down! ★ 6-8 pm @ Tonaquint Park (1851 S. Dixie Dr. St George, UT)

9 pm: Tonaquint Star Party

Join rangers and DSU's astronomy team to look through telescopes and get a great view of the heavens! ★ 9-11 pm @ Tonaquint Park (1851 S. Dixie Dr. St George, UT)



To register for events, email: leesa_ricci@nps.gov

SATURDAY SEPT. 8TH - IRON COUNTY

Noon-6 pm: Library in the Stars

Join us for all day astronomy festivities at Cedar City's Library in the Park ★ 303 N. 100 E. Cedar City, UT:

★ **All Day | Reach for the Stars** Art and Astronomy Exhibit, featuring a genuine meteorite from outer space!

★ **12-6 pm | SUU's Planetarium** will be inside the library hosting shows every 20 minutes.

★ **12-3 pm | Solar Astronomy by Kids for Kids:** You've never met astronomers as enthusiastic about the Sun as our resident experts. They will be outside showing off our nearest neighbor.

★ **12-2 pm | Exoplanet Travel Agent:** You've never been trapped in a more awesome time-share spiel in your life: Learn about exoplanets and consider which ones you'd like to visit. Snacks will be provided.

★ **2-4 pm | Space Travel and the Human Body workshop:** Learn about how the lack of gravity affects the human body, and experience some of its effects yourself!

Please register for guaranteed seating.

★ **2-4 pm | Cosmology:** Learn about the Universe's biggest mysteries and their most intriguing theories.

★ **4-6 pm | Night-sky Photography Presentation:** Join this presentation on how to photograph the night sky with a professional astrophotographer. **Must register.**

7:30 pm: Night Sky Photography Workshop

Learn how to photograph the night sky with a professional photographer at Cedar Breaks. **Must register.** ★ 7:30-10 pm @ Cedar Breaks Nat. Mon (Ranger Station off Hwy 148, UT)

8 pm: Star Party at the Breaks!

Join the Cedar Breaks dark sky team to see a stunning sky in a stunning location. Located 20 miles outside of Cedar City, this is a wonderful dark place to view the night sky. Includes a Bat Talk by biologist Bryan Hamilton. ★ 8-11 pm @ Cedar Breaks National Monument (Point Supreme off Hwy 148, UT)

8 pm: Star Party at the Observatory!

Join us at this historic observatory to catch some great views of the night sky. If we are clouded out, don't worry, we'll have a special screening of a space movie and discussion. ★ 8-10 pm @ Ashcroft Observatory (745 Hillcrest Dr. Cedar City, UT)

SATURDAY SEPT. 8TH -PIPE SPRING AREA, AZ

7:30 pm (AZ time): Night Sky Heritage with Kaibab Band of Paiutes

Celebrate the skies at the Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation and Pipe Spring National Monument. Learn about traditional views of the stars from local tribal members. After darkness falls join Rangers for opportunities to look at objects through a telescope. ★ 7:30 pm AZ time (8:30 pm UT time) @ Tribal Campground (1/4 mile north of 406 N. Pipe Spring Rd. Fredonia, AZ)

To register for events, email: leesa_ricci@nps.gov

SATURDAY SEPT. 8TH - WASHINGTON COUNTY

10 am: Go Batty!

Join Red Cliffs Reserve staff to hear a bat story, learn about bats in our area, watch a bat video and do a bat themed craft.

★ 10 am- 2 pm @ Red Cliffs Desert Reserve (10 N. 100 E. St. George, UT)



11 am: Sun Party for the Whole Family

Join the St. George Astronomy Group for a solar party. Get a personal view of the Sun! Come see sunspots and solar prominences! ★ 11 am- 2 pm @ St. George Children's Museum (86 S. Main Street, St. George, UT)

7 pm: Astrophotography Workshop

Learn the ins and outs of how to photograph the night sky with a professional astrophotographer. **Must register.** ★ 7-9 pm @ Public Lands Office (345 E. Riverside Dr. St George, UT)

7 pm: Paint Night

Make your own Van Gogh inspired artwork as you are instructed through painting the dark night sky. **Please register for guaranteed seating.** ★ 7-9 pm @ Tonaquint Nature Center (1851 S. Dixie Dr. -St George, UT)

8 pm: Desert Discoveries after Dark

Join a BLM park ranger on a quiet hike to discover the hidden world after sundown, engaging your senses to explore the desert as it comes alive at dusk. Easy to moderate hike, 1-3 miles, ages 15+. 10 participants max. **Must register by calling Melissa at: 435-688-3283 or 435-359-3477.** ★ 8-10 pm @ Red Cliffs National Conservation Area (345 E. Riverside Dr. St. George, UT).

8 pm: Star Party in the Park

Come out and join the St. George Astronomy Group for a star party. We will be looking at planets, stars, moons and distant galaxies. We will start at dusk, weather permitting. ★ 8-11 pm @ Unity Park (200 W. 400 S. Ivins, UT)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9TH

8 pm: Star Party Finale at Cedar Breaks

Tired from all the astronomy on Friday and Saturday? No? Then this party is for you! This gigantic star party will include telescopes from Cedar Breaks National Monument, the Southern Utah Space Foundation, Southern Utah University, and the University of Utah's enormous 26-inch telescope. You've never seen the stars like this. Parking is limited, so **carpool if you can!** ★ 8-11 pm @ Cedar Breaks National Monument (Point Supreme, Hwy 148, UT)

8 pm: Star Party Finale at Gunlock State Park

Join Gunlock State Park rangers and members of the St. George Astronomy Group for a star party finale in one of the darkest places near St. George. Parking is limited **please carpool!** ★ 8-11 pm @ Gunlock State Park (Gunlock Rd., Gunlock, UT)