

KILOLANI

THE STARGAZER



Hours

Now
Showing

Upcoming
Events

Gift
Shop

Forward
this to a
Friend

Volume 4, Issue 4

'Apelila (April) 2009

Be sure to check our **Events** and **Planetarium** show schedules on our website at imiloahawaii.org to learn what's happening and when.

'Imiloa Astronomy Center is open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Tuesday through Sunday, and on these holidays: Memorial Day, King Kamehameha Day, Independence Day (Fourth of July) and Labor Day. We're closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Please send your comments and feedback to our Membership and Development Office at membership@imiloahawaii.org or call (808) 969-9732.

Calendar of Events at a Glance -- details provided below

2009: International Year of Astronomy (IYA) - stay tuned for more info on events!

Every Saturday: Keiki Kilohoku Korner activities from 9:30 am to 11:00 am
10:00 am *Secret of the Cardboard Rocket* keiki planetarium show

January - May 2009: *Science Rocks!* after-school program, Wednesdays at 2:00 pm

March 26 - April 30: *3D Hitchhikers Exploration of the Universe*, Thurs at 7:30 pm

April 14-17: 3rd annual Merrie Monarch programs at 'Imiloa

April 18: *Maunakea Director's Lecture Series* with Dr. Doug Simons at 7:00 pm

April 22: *Science Rocks!* [Combustion and Explosions](#)

April 29: *Science Rocks!* [Science of Cool](#)

April 30: *Camp 'Imiloa* sign-up **deadline**

May 16: *Maunakea Director's Lecture Series* with Dr. Rolf Kudritzki at 7:00 pm

May 22: *U2* - the FINAL screening of the popular rock show!

June 20: *Maunakea Director's Lecture Series* with Director Tom Phillips at 7:00 pm

June 27-28, 29-July 3: *Camp 'Imiloa* Family Program and Day Program

September: Celebrate Museums Month - visit 10 of our Hawai'i Island museums free!

October: 2nd annual Hilo Wayfinding and Navigation Festival

October 24: IYA Block Party in the UH Hilo Science and Technology Park

December 4: Member Mahalo Holiday Party!

Member Announcements

Announcing unlimited FREE daily shows for all 'Imiloa members

Based on member feedback, we will no longer charge you a "second show" fee for planetarium shows whenever you visit us. What does this mean for you? You can come in and see as many shows as you like (during the regular business hours of 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Tuesday through Sunday) without being charged to watch an extra show. This means you can spend more time here with your 'ohana and out-of-town visitors.

We are working hard to improve what we offer and how we service our members. Keep sharing your thoughts by emailing us at membership@imiloahawaii.org, calling us at 969-9732, or (if you haven't done so already) completing our annual membership survey at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=YSA5CXa4wmDrLdz7cgnaA_3d_3d

Partnership with the UH Alumni Association



'Imiloa is partnering with the University of Hawai'i Alumni Association (UHAA) to bring alumni, friends, and members great discounts! UHAA is an international network of alumni chapters and members; it is their goal is to cultivate the progress of interest between the University of Hawai'i, alumni, and friends through "mutually beneficial and lifelong relationships; to generate support for the university; and to participate in events

that showcase the university's excellence."

'Imiloa Astronomy Center is pleased to announce this new partnership with the UHAA. Together, we are moving forward and extending a \$10 discount on all levels of 'Imiloa membership for every UHAA member. Simply show your UHAA membership card to qualify!

'Imiloa announces student and teacher membership discount

Are you a current or retired schoolteacher or a current university student? Visit our front desk during regular business hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Tuesday through Sunday to qualify for a \$10.00 discount on all levels of membership with 'Imiloa. Be sure to bring a valid identification showing proof of affiliation.

2009 Membership Survey

Mahalo nui loa to everyone who completed our survey! 'Imiloa values your



membership and we appreciate all of your feedback. We are working hard to improve our program and are carefully reviewing your input and sharing it with our team.

Haven't completed it yet? Hurry up before it closes on April 27!

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=YSA5CXa4wmDrLdz7cgnaA_3d_3d

Share your mana'o today!

Upcoming Events and Activities

3D Hitchhikers Exploration of the Universe - Telescopic Discoveries



'Imiloa Astronomy Center is proud to announce the return of the popular evening planetarium program, *3D Hitchhikers Exploration of the Universe - Telescopic Discoveries*. The first program will be held on Thursday, March 26, at 7:30 pm and will be offered weekly on Thursday nights through the end of April, with the last program showing on April 30.

This program utilizes the 3D stereoscopic projection system in our state-of-the-art, 120-seat planetarium. Shawn Laatsch, 'Imiloa's planetarium manager, will host the evening presentation. He will fly participants out into space on a unique and engaging tour of the universe. This new version of the show focuses on telescopic discoveries in honor of the International Year of Astronomy (IYA2009).

The audience will fly through our solar system, exploring the asteroid belt and numerous planets. From there, Laatsch will direct the audience to other star systems with planets, going far beyond to star clusters and other areas of the Milky Way galaxy. The journey will continue into inter-galactic space, traveling to the Virgo cluster of galaxies and out to the edge of the known universe.

Come join us for a virtual 3D flight through the cosmos: exploring time, space, and new telescopic discoveries!

Shows will be offered every Thursday between March 26 and April 30. Cost is \$8.00 for members or \$10.00 for non-members. For more information, call (808) 969-9703. You can also visit our front desk desk.

Merrie Monarch Festival 2009

The Merrie Monarch Festival is back again for its forty-sixth year, taking place from April 12 through the 18,



here in Hilo. The major purpose of the festival is the perpetuation, preservation, and promotion of the art of hula and the Hawaiian culture through education. The festival allows for people of all ages to display their skills and knowledge of the art of ancient and modern hula. As an official partner, 'Imiloa Astronomy Center partakes in the festivities through numerous programs and activities.

Friday (April 17)

This is the last day to take part in the festivities at 'Imiloa. There will be a hula workshop with Manu Boyd and his halau in the morning and a performance by the same halau in the afternoon.



Throughout the week, there will be daily performances by one of Hawaii's foremost female vocalists, Darlene Ahuna, from 11:45 to 12:45.

Click [here](#) for a detailed schedule of 'Imiloa's Merrie Monarch events. Make sure you take part in this one-of-a-kind celebration of Hawaiian culture and dance!

Keiki Kilohoku Korner

Activities every Saturday!

The Keiki Kilohoku Korner, or K-Cubed, is on every Saturday from 9:30 am - 11:00 am for the visitors who come to see *Secret of the Cardboard Rocket*, our 10:00 am keiki planetarium show. Educational activities will take place in 'Imiloa's atrium area. Storytelling, science demos and experiments will be offered.

Science Rocks!

'Imiloa's after-school program

Our after-school program, "*Science Rocks!*" is in full swing! Students from area schools, in grades 4-6, are enjoying non-stop, high energy, hands-on science activities every Wednesday afternoon while school is in session. Don't miss out on this premier, high quality, science education program that parents are raving about and children don't want to leave. Check out all the information on our [website](#). This is where kids learn how cool science can be, introducing them to the world of science all around them! They won't want to miss it - this academic year's concluding program will be on May 27.

The upcoming and final sessions include the following:

- April 22 - Combustion and Explosions
- April 29 - Science of Cool
- May 6 - Earth Science
- May 13 - Science Theater
- May 20 - Geometry of Nature

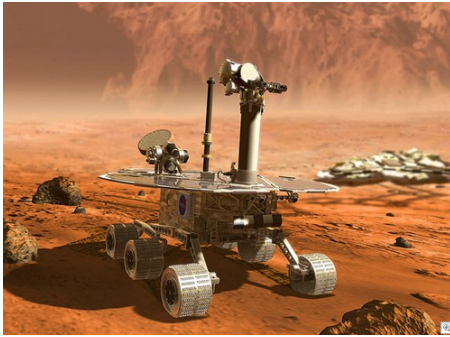


May 27 - Pico Workshop: Time to Tinker

For more information or to access the enrollment form, please [click here](#) or call Gail Loeffler at 969-9729.

Camp 'Imiloa

"Next Stop - Mars"



Camp 'Imiloa is a space-themed program that strives to serve as a catalyst for student interest in science and the future exploration of space - and in reflecting upon, and learning from, the voyages of human exploration of the past, and the culture and science of the Hawaiian explorers. This year's theme is: "Next Stop - Mars."

There are two unique programs tailored to our budding explorers: the individual's *Camp 'Imiloa Day Program* and one for the whole 'ohana, the

Camp 'Imiloa Family Program.

The *Camp 'Imiloa Day Program* will be held from Monday, June 29, to Friday, July 3, from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. This five day, four-hours-per day experience will allow keiki to explore various science and technology applications. Possible topics may include: food for Mars, energy on Mars, robotics, gravity, Earth-Mars ABCs, Mars exploration, and the Mars Polar Cap. All students in grades 3-6 as of January 1, 2009 are eligible.

The *Camp 'Imiloa Family Program* will be held on Saturday, June 27, and Sunday, June 28, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. This two-day program allows parents and children to join together as a unique mission team, exploring together the science of Mars and space. Possible topics may include: the Mars Polar Cap, food for mars, gravity, robotics, energy on Mars, Earth-Mars ABCs, and Mars exploration. Students in grades 2-6 as of January 1, 2009 are eligible.



The deadline for signing up is on April 30 and enrollment is now being accepted. There is limited space and reservations are confirmed on a first come, first serve basis. The enrollment form and tuition information is available [here](#).

By April 30, please fill out the enrollment form and mail tuition to:

'Imiloa Astronomy Center
Attn: Gail Loeffler
600 'Imiloa Place
Hilo, HI 96720

Join a crew of explorers as we investigate what it will take to travel to, and live on, the Red Planet! Questions? Please call Gail Loeffler at 969-9729.

Mahalo, Roberts Hawaii!

Helping the keiki come to 'Imiloa



'Imiloa Astronomy Center wishes to thank Roberts Hawaii and their drivers for their willingness and reliability in providing transportation for all the Big Island schoolchildren to come to 'Imiloa free of charge with admission, transportation, and lunch provided through the Moore Grant school field trip experience.

For more information on the many services of Roberts Hawaii, visit their website at <http://www.robertshawaii.com>

Mahalo nui loa Roberts Hawaii! We appreciate you - and so do the keiki!



April Maunakea Director's Lecture Series: "From Galileo to Gemini"

Saturday, April 18 at 7:00 pm in the planetarium

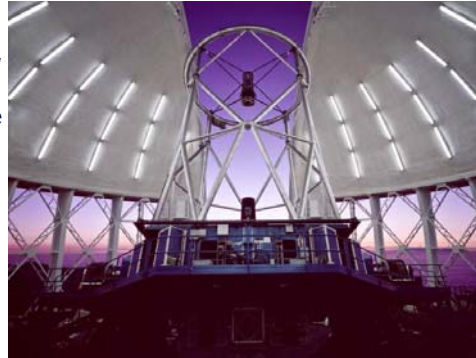
On Saturday, April 18, at 7:00 pm, 'Imiloa Astronomy Center will host this month's popular *Maunakea Director's Lecture Series* program. This month's program will be hosted by Dr. Doug Simons, Director of Gemini Observatory, presenting "From Galileo to Gemini."



To provide some historical perspective, Dr. Simons' talk will take audiences back four hundred years ago, to when Galileo first used two small pieces of glass to observe the heavens. Dr. Simons will take the audience from this historic moment to the many new and exciting discoveries that have occurred since then. Since the beginning of 2009 - just a few months - the Gemini Observatory has announced the disappearance of two supernovae stars!

The Gemini Observatory is one of two telescopes, with its 8.1-meter partner located on the summit of Cerro Pachon in Chile. Our Gemini Observatory, located atop Maunakea, was designed and built with two performance goals in mind: 1. to provide the best image quality possible from the ground for a telescope of its size, and 2. to provide the cleanest possible telescope, for optimal infrared observation.

The Gemini Observatory is one of two telescopes, with its 8.1-meter partner located on the summit of Cerro Pachon in Chile. Our Gemini Observatory, located atop Maunakea, was designed and built with two performance goals in mind: 1. to provide the best image quality possible from the ground for a telescope of its size, and 2. to provide the cleanest possible telescope, for optimal infrared observation.



The Sky Garden Restaurant will be open from 5:00 to 8:00 pm for dinner.

For more information about *Maunakea Director's Lecture Series*, please visit the [Events](#), [What's New](#), and [Planetarium](#) pages at imiloahawaii.org.

Maunakea Director's Lecture Series begins at 7:00 pm and is now on the third Saturday of every month. Because this is the International Year of Astronomy, all *Maunakea Director's Lecture Series* programs will be **free** for members and the community at-large throughout 2009. First come, first serve. Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes in advance.

Questions? Please feel free to call Shawn Laatsch, 'Imiloa's Planetarium Manager at 969-9735.

In the Planetarium

U2 - Hurry before it's gone! - last show May 22nd

'Imiloa's Friday night music entertainment show features one of the greatest bands of the last two decades: U2. The last showing will be on Friday, May 22. Check it out now before it's gone!



U2 is the first ever full-dome production featuring U2's timeless classics and modern hits. This show is a 43-minute immersive experience to the popular bands music, thanks to the high-tech, full dome, digital video and 5.1 Dolby Digital Surround sound capability of the 'Imiloa Planetarium. See waves of rich computer renderings of colors, images, animations, and fractals that are choreographed with the band's music. From "Bullet the Blue Sky" to "Sunday Bloody Sunday" and "Elevation," this jam-packed show is full of U2's all-time greatest songs!

Shows are offered every Friday at 7:30 and 9:00 pm. Cost is \$8.00 for members or \$10.00 for non-members. To purchase tickets, please call 969-9704 or 969-

9703. You can also visit our front desk during regular business hours.

#####