

# INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF ASTRONOMY 2009

THE UNIVERSE, YOURS TO DISCOVER.

The International Year of Astronomy 2009 is a global effort initiated by the International Astronomical Union and UNESCO to help the citizens of the world rediscover their place in the Universe through the day and night-time sky, and thereby engage a personal sense of wonder and discovery.



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



Partners for the International Year of Astronomy 2009

## Vision

The International Year of Astronomy 2009 aims to help everyone realise the impact that astronomy and other fundamental sciences have on our daily lives, and understand how scientific knowledge can contribute to a more equitable and peaceful society.

IYA2009 activities will take place locally and globally. Nodes have been formed in over 120 nations to plan activities and establish collaborations between science centres, astronomers, educators, enthusiasts, artists and many others.

To help coordinate this huge global programme and to provide an important point of contact for the participating countries, the International Astronomical Union has established a central Secretariat and website ([www.astronomy2009.org](http://www.astronomy2009.org)) as the principal IYA2009 resource for the public, professionals and media.

## Goals

- 1 Increase scientific awareness.
- 2 Promote widespread access to new knowledge and observing experiences.
- 3 Empower astronomical communities in developing countries.
- 4 Support and improve formal and informal science education.
- 5 Provide a modern image of science and scientists.
- 6 Facilitate new networks and strengthen existing ones.
- 7 Improve the gender-balanced representation of scientists at all levels and promote greater involvement by underrepresented minorities in scientific and engineering careers.
- 8 Facilitate the preservation and protection of the world's cultural and natural heritage of dark skies in places such as urban oases, national parks and astronomical sites.

## Global Sponsors



## Organisational Associates

