

**Special Star Shuttle Route**  
June 13-16 only  
Star Shuttle 8:15pm-11:15pm  
• all stops except Ruby's  
• every 15 minutes  
Star-Ruby's Shuttle 8:00pm-12:15am  
• all stops  
• every 30 minutes

## SEVENTH ANNUAL BRYCE CANYON ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

*One of the last grand sanctuaries of dark skies*

*June 13-16, 2007*

Welcome to the Bryce Canyon Astronomy Festival! Whether you have stumbled upon this event or have traveled thousands of miles to experience the famous Bryce skies, we hope you have a wonderful time under this grand sanctuary of dark skies. This festival is a partnership between the Salt Lake Astronomical Society and the National Park Service, and is provided for the general public. You don't need to be a science buff or astronomy geek to enjoy our four days of activities and programs.



Daytime activities include workshops on a variety of topics for both kids and adults, viewing the Sun through special solar telescopes, and of course our regular geology talks and rim walks. Evening programs feature a variety of talks related to the cosmos and the night. When darkness falls, gather at our special stargazing location for a view of the heavens through numerous telescopes provided by the Salt Lake Astronomical Society, take a constellation tour with a park ranger, or just gaze and wonder at the beauty of it all.

Over the last fifty years, Americans have noticed bright city lights pushing the night further and further away. Where once could be seen thousands of stars, the Milky Way, northern lights, shooting stars, and comets, most night skies are now filled with the yellow glow from lights near and far. There are only a few areas left in the contiguous U.S. where the starry night still holds its full glory, and Bryce Canyon National Park is one of them. Come enjoy the other half of the scenery—the half that is night.

This special event is sponsored by the National Park Service, the Bryce Canyon Natural History Association and the Salt Lake Astronomical Society.



**COME SEE US NEXT YEAR AT THE EIGHTH ANNUAL  
BRYCE CANYON ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL  
JUNE 25-28, 2008**

# DAYTIME PROGRAMS

## VIEW THE SUN

Using the park's special solar telescope, safely view the Sun. Park staff will help you spot solar prominences, solar flares, and sunspots on the surface of our star as it changes from hour to hour. Weather permitting.

AUDIENCE: ALL

LOCATION: OUTDOORS, VISITOR CENTER PATIO  
EVERY DAY, 10:45AM–2:00PM

## THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS

Hey, kids! Have you ever dreamed of being as astronaut and exploring space? Before you depart on your journey, you are going to need to know a lot about stars. Join park ranger Kevin Poe for stellar fun and games that will give you a new appreciation for stars.

AUDIENCE: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1:00–2:00PM

## WHAT'S YOUR GALACTIC ADDRESS?

Have you ever sent a postcard via inter-galactic mail? Learn your own galactic address as we send a postcard from a faraway planet back home across the light years. Presented by park ranger Chad Moore.

AUDIENCE: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, LIMITED TO 40

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE  
THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1:00–1:45PM

## ASTRONOMY FOR KIDS

Get your blood flowing as we take an interactive and kinetic trip through our solar system. Presented by planetarium educator Amy Sayle.

AUDIENCE: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, LIMITED TO 40

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE  
FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 1:00–1:45PM  
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1:00–1:45PM

## PLANET WALK

Join a ranger as we walk along a scale model of the solar system and learn about the planets. Be prepared for a 1-mile walk in sunshine and bring a bottle of water.

AUDIENCE: ALL

LOCATION: OUTDOORS, VISITOR CENTER PATIO  
EVERY DAY, 2:00–2:45PM

## LEARN THE SKY

Knowing the night sky is a great skill you can take with you everywhere. This workshop teaches the basics of the motion of the sky, how to orient yourself at night, and how to use a star chart or planisphere. A great warm-up for stargazing. This is our most popular workshop.

AUDIENCE: ALL, LIMITED TO 40

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE  
EVERY DAY, 3:00–3:45PM

## CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION

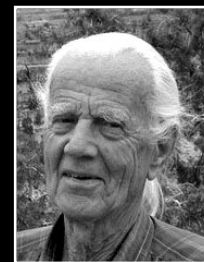
Children from around Southern Utah applied artistic inspiration from the night sky to their canvas. The winning entries from each grade are displayed.

AUDIENCE: ALL

LOCATION: VISITOR CENTER LOBBY  
EVERY DAY, OPEN HOUSE

### *Keynote Speaker:*

Bryce Canyon National Park is privileged to have John Dobson speak at this year's Astronomy Festival. This visionary and popularizer of astronomy has been an inspiration to countless people, sharing his love of the cosmos and concern for this planet and those that live on it. John has taught numerous classes on how to build your own telescope from scratch, and his elegant 1960's design for a simple telescope is today referred to as a "Dobsonian."



### ASTRONOMY FOR KIDS UNDER 80

How the Universe got the way it is and how we got the way we are to worry about it. Join John Dobson for an insightful and provocative look at our place upon the larger stage of our Universe.

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE  
FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 8:30PM



*Ticket Required!*

*Note: All daytime programs are first-come, first-served at the listed location*

# EVENING PROGRAMS

## STARS IN THE PARK

Join NASA Solar System Ambassador Patrick Wiggins as he offers the latest in astronomy and space exploration, with humorous distinctions between science fiction and science fact. This is Patrick's twenty-fourth year of providing astronomy programs at the park.

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 8:30PM



*Ticket Required!*

## THE STORY OF THE TELESCOPE

Join astronomy educator Geoff Goins as he takes us on a journey through history at the speed of light. Travel the twisting road of astronomy before the telescope, the present Hubble Space Telescope, to the future of the human race's path through the universe.

LOCATION: VISITOR CENTER AUDITORIUM  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 8:45PM



*Ticket Required!*

## SCARED OF THE DARK

Darkness is a common fear, but knowledge can make you brave. Through fun activities and multimedia presentation, "Dark" Ranger Kevin Poe will introduce you to Bryce's nocturnal creatures and explain why maybe we should be more scared of the light than the dark.

LOCATION: NORTH CAMPGROUND CAMPFIRE CIRCLE  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 9:00PM

## YOU ARE HERE!

You have travelled to a very special place. Tonight you have a chance to see the sky of your ancestors. This presentation by Morris Jones will introduce you to the Milky Way, what it is, how to see it, and where you are within it.

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE  
THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 8:30PM



*Ticket Required!*

## STAR STORIES

Join planetarium educator Amy Sayle on a trip through the constellations best seen this summer, and hear star myths from around the globe. Ample audience participation!

LOCATION: VISITOR CENTER AUDITORIUM  
THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 8:45PM



*Ticket Required!*

## COSMIC CONNECTIONS

Join park ranger Angie Richman on a journey of human discovery through the cosmos, spanning 13 billion years from the big bang to the present. Reconnect to the beauty of the night.

LOCATION: NORTH CAMPGROUND CAMPFIRE CIRCLE  
THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 9:00PM

## BATS— MASTERS OF THE NIGHT

Much maligned, often misunderstood, and frequently feared, bats are important economically and ecologically. Perfectly adapted to a dark sky, they truly are masters of the night. Take a closer look with guest park ranger Tom Haraden.

LOCATION: VISITOR CENTER AUDITORIUM  
FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 8:45PM



*Ticket Required!*

## ENCYCLOPAEDIA GALACTICA

Just what is it about Bryce's night sky that brings travelers from all over the globe? Its beauty? Gazing upon a final frontier? Find out for yourself as you take a virtual tour of the galaxy and beyond with volunteer Randy Dunning.

LOCATION: NORTH CAMPGROUND CAMPFIRE CIRCLE  
FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 9:00PM

## IT'S NOT YOUR PARENTS' SOLAR SYSTEM

Hubble Telescope astronomer Frank Summers presents a lively discussion on the recent revolution in knowledge about our celestial backyard. Discover not only why Pluto is no longer a planet, but also why our solar system may be the oddball among the stars.

LOCATION: BRYCE CANYON LODGE  
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 8:30PM



*Ticket Required!*

## UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHY OF HOPE

The vast wilderness of untouched scenery and life orbit the suns in our constellations. Is it possible to find another Bryce, Grand Canyon, or Black Canyon? Join guest park ranger Phil Zichterman in an exploration of this planet's wild places and worlds beyond us.

LOCATION: VISITOR CENTER AUDITORIUM  
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 8:45PM



*Ticket Required!*

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF LOOKING UP

The night sky has been an ever present companion throughout human history. Come explore how people have drawn upon the heavens throughout the ages with park ranger Kate Magargal.

LOCATION: NORTH CAMPGROUND CAMPFIRE CIRCLE  
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 9:00PM



*Remember to pick up a free ticket at the Visitor Center for events marked with this icon.*

# STARGAZING PROGRAMS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

## STARGAZING AND TELESCOPE VIEWING

The centerpiece of the festival is seeing the beautiful night sky. Join members of the Salt Lake Astronomical Society as they show you the sky through dozens of telescopes. Volunteers will explain the various astronomical objects in the sky and answer any questions you may have. Constellation tours will also be presented by rangers twice each night.

LOCATION: STARGAZING SITE (SEE MAP)

EACH NIGHT, 10:00PM–MIDNIGHT (WEATHER PERMITTING)

**Stargazing location:** Nighttime telescope viewing is at the overflow/trailer drop-off lot across the main road from the Visitor Center. Parking is very limited, so the special Star Shuttle is recommended. The site is a short stroll from the North Campground or Campfire Circle, or a one-mile walk from the Bryce Canyon Lodge. If you must drive, park at the Visitor Center and follow the crosswalk and short access trail. Restrooms are available at the Visitor Center until midnight, and at North Campground Loop A after that. Please do not arrive at the stargazing site before 9:45PM as the astronomers will be busy setting up.

37° 38' 20" North  
112° 10' 15" West  
7900' Elevation



**Tickets:** Because seating is limited, free tickets are required for evening talks at the Bryce Canyon Lodge and Visitor Center Auditorium (but not at the Campfire Circle or for stargazing). These are available at the Visitor Center on the day of the program, and are good for that event only. Please take one ticket for each person in your party for the program you wish to attend. Please arrive on time, as unclaimed seats will be given away 5 minutes after the scheduled start time on a first-come, first-served basis. Once the seats are filled, the program will begin.

ORANGE TICKETS: BRYCE CANYON LODGE

GREEN TICKETS: VISITOR CENTER AUDITORIUM

NO TICKET NEEDED FOR ALL OTHER PROGRAMS



**Star Shuttle:** Special shuttle service will operate for the festival (see map for route). The Star Shuttle will stop at the Sunset Campground, Bryce Canyon Lodge, North Campground Campfire Circle (near the General Store), and Visitor Center, and will run every 15 minutes. A second shuttle, the Star-Ruby's Shuttle, will also stop at Ruby's Inn, and will run every 30 minutes.

STAR SHUTTLE: 8:15PM–11:15PM

STAR-RUBY'S SHUTTLE: 8:00PM–12:15AM



**Accessibility:** A small number of spaces alongside the stargazing location will be marked as handicapped parking. The Stargazing Site is smooth pavement, with a moderate incline suitable for wheelchairs.



**Trailer drop-off lot:** This lot has special hours, as it will be the stargazing and telescope viewing site each night. From June 13–16, the hours will be 6:30AM–6:30PM. Trailers or RVs left in the lot after 6:30PM will likely be blocked in or moved once the evening programs have started.



**Time:** Remember that Bryce Canyon is on Utah time (Mountain Daylight Time). It is one hour ahead of Arizona time (Mountain Standard Time) and Nevada time (Pacific Daylight Time).



**Dress warmly:** At an altitude of around 8,000 feet, Bryce Canyon is cooler than you may expect. While daytime temperatures typically reach into the 80s (30°C), nighttime temperatures routinely fall into the low 40s (5°C). A thick jacket, warm pants, and even gloves and a wool hat make the night more enjoyable. If you left your warm clothes at home, wrap up in a blanket or dress in layers to stay comfortable.