



## NATIONAL SPACE DESIGN COMPETITION

### StellarXplorers IX National Champion Crowned



Team Ratatoing from Edmond North High School Air Force JROTC in Edmond, Okla., is the champion of AFA's Season IX StellarXplorers National Space Design Competition.

Season IX began with more than 300 teams from across the country competing in four rounds of competition.

In round one, the teams showed their orbital planning skills by tracking the moon's shadow over Earth during a total solar eclipse. In round two, they selected components of an observation satellite to track the migration of fish off the coast of South America. For round three, teams

used their launch programming skills to launch an international mission to Neptune. The semifinal round, which focused on both orbital planning and satellite design, required teams to inspect a mysterious object in low earth orbit.

And in Houston for the final mission, during the 8 hour competition round, teams not only put a new international space station into orbit, they also designed communication satellites for relaying data between the ground and the station, and selected two launch vehicles that would put those satellites into optimal orbits. The next morning, each team briefed their solutions to a panel of experts.

The other top finishers from the StellarXplorers IX National Finals Competition included:

The second-place Flying Tigers from North Allegheny High School Air Force JROTC in Pittsburgh, Pa. The third-place Pulsars from The Science Academy STEM Magnet in North Hollywood, Calif.

If you aren't already, follow StellarXplorers on your favorite platform!



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## Registration Open for StellarXplorers X

Registration for the 2023-2024 competition season is open now through October 17. Don't wait, register your team today!



[CLICK TO REGISTER A TEAM](#)

*The registration form should be **completed by the team director only.***

Team directors are not required to have prior experience with the Competition, nor do Team Directors need to have experience with Systems Tool Kit (STK) or orbital mechanics to serve in the role. The Competition focuses on the problem-solving side of space system design and less on advanced physics or equations.

[Click here](#) for information about the upcoming season, including dates, deadlines, and registration fees.

## STELLARCAMPS

Looking for STEM programs to offer students during the summer? Look no further!

Organizations interested in hosting a space-focused summer camp still have time to [register to host a StellarCamp](#). The full camp curriculum (20-hours / five 4-hour days) is available for a purchase price of \$300 per week. The host can choose to conduct the camp in-person or virtually during any of the 12 weeks below. You must register for the week at least two weeks prior to the start date.



June 5 – 9	July 3 – 7*	July 31 – Aug. 4
June 12 – 16	July 10 – 14	Aug. 7 – 11
June 19 – 23*	July 17 – 21	Aug. 14–18
June 26 – 30	July 24 – 28	Aug. 21 – 25

*\* Holiday falls during camp week*

If you have questions about hosting, please contact [info@stellarxplorers.org](mailto:info@stellarxplorers.org).

## SPONSOR NEWS

### Lockheed Martin Space: Summer Internship Opportunities



Do you see yourself working in Space? Lockheed Martin's Space High School Internship Program is designed to provide current high school students the opportunity to work with real Lockheed Martin scientists and engineers. Projects tackle complex challenges, advance scientific discovery, and deliver innovative solutions to help our customers keep people safe. To

qualify for the program, you must be at least 16 years of age, enrolled in high school, and have a passion for STEM. Internships may be virtual or in-person depending on your location.

Hear directly from former Lockheed Martin Space StellarXplorers interns about their experiences in the [August 2022 StellarXpress](#).

To learn more about careers with Lockheed Martin Space, please visit [Space Careers](#) webpage.

## STEM RESOURCES

### Join the StellarXplorers Alumni Network

The StellarXplorers Alumni Network is intended to connect program alumni with each other and with program sponsors and supporters from industry and academia. Within this group we'll share networking opportunities, available internships, job postings, and more!

This is a private group for past and present StellarXplorers participants. You must be at least 16 years of age to join, per LinkedIn account regulations. All requests to join will be reviewed by StellarXplorers staff to verify participation in the program.



To join, visit: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12721859/>

## SPACE NEWS

In case you missed it...

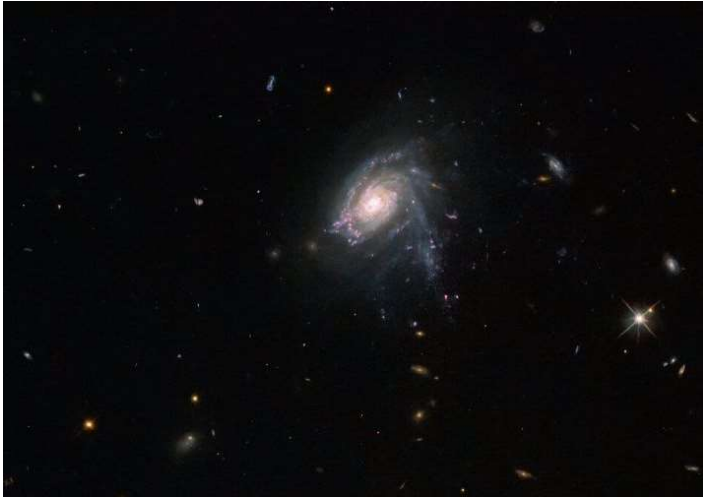
- 14 APR 2023 | [Europe launches JUICE mission to study icy Jupiter ocean moons](#)
- 16 APR 2023 | [Rare red asteroids around Neptune could reveal the secrets of the early solar system](#)
- 17 APR 2023 | [Satellite network could connect Earth with bases on moon's far side](#)
- 18 APR 2023 | [Students set to land first US rover on the moon — before NASA](#)
- 19 APR 2023 | [Rocket Lab to fly used engine for 1st time later this year](#)
- 20 APR 2023 | [SpaceX's 1st Starship launches on epic test flight, explodes high in sky](#)
- 21 APR 2023 | [Diversity will be key to Artemis moon-to-Mars push, NASA officials say](#)
- 25 APR 2023 | [NASA chose these 4 people to spend 1 year in a simulated Mars outpost](#)
- 27 APR 2023 | [NASA Voyager 2 probe extends interstellar science for 3 more years](#)
- 30 APR 2023 | [See Mercury's giant, comet-like tail in stunning new image as it passes close to the sun](#)
- 03 MAY 2023 | [Scientists catch real-life Death Star devouring planet](#)

*StellarXplorers Teams in the News:*

- 18 APR 2023 | [Huntsville High School JROTC headed to Space Competition](#)
- 19 APR 2023 | [HHS Space Force JROTC Team to Advance to Nationals](#)
- 2 MAY 2023 | [JROTC earns top two spots at national space competition](#)

We'd love to share any stories about your team, send them our way: [competition@stellarxplorers.org](mailto:competition@stellarxplorers.org).

Images from space:



[This image](#) of the jellyfish galaxy JO175 was captured by the Hubble Space Telescope. (Image credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA, M. Gullieuszik and the GASP team)



NASA's James Webb Space Telescope captured [this image](#) of the merging galaxies known as Arp 220. The object lies about 250 million light-years from Earth. (Image credit: Image: NASA, ESA, CSA, STScI; Image processing: Alyssa Pagan (STScI))

## JUST FOR FUN

These shows are launching on Disney Plus for Star Wars Day 2023



If you only knew the power of the Dark Side. Well, you will this May 4 as Disney Plus is launching two new shows for Star Wars Day.

Disney Plus (opens in new tab) is the home of all things Star Wars and there's never been a better time to be a Star Wars fan with new shows like "The Mandalorian" and "Star Wars: Andor" being released, among others. However, this May 4 two new shows are being added to the streaming platform. "Star Wars: Visions" volume two and "Young Jedi adventures" will be available to watch from Star Wars Day itself.

While you can watch all the Star Wars movies in order, the two new shows are a good way to celebrate May 4 with fresh content. Star Wars visions offers new animated shorts in different animation styles, while "Young Jedi Adventures" is a fun, light-hearted animated show aimed for the younglings. [Click to read more](#)

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