COMPETITION

Schools are back in session and StellarXplorers IX registration is open until October 17, 2022! If you're interested in participating in our National Space Design Competition, be sure to register your team here!

Each year, StellarXplorers hosts a National Space Design Competition, which challenges teams of students across the country to solve orbit determination, satellite component planning, and launch vehicle selection scenarios presented in a series of online rounds. These are real-world space design challenges, and the best part is no prior experience is required for participation. We provide all the necessary training and software needed for success. We also have a technical mentor program that allows industry professionals to volunteer their time and help teams prepare.

Each team requires an adult leader (typically a teacher) and 2-6 students. Competition rounds are scheduled to begin in late October, and all teams are guaranteed three rounds of participation. If you’re interested in learning more (schedule, cost, team composition, registration process, etc.), visit our website: www.stellarxplorers.org/competition.

STELLARCAMPS

StellarCamps for 2022 have officially come to a close. A big thank you goes out to the host organizations, volunteer instructors, and student participants of the 28 camps held this summer. Without your support, this program would not be possible.

If you implemented a camp, please expect a feedback survey to be emailed to you within the next several weeks. We kindly ask you take a few minutes to provide your honest feedback so we can continue to improve the program.

Registration for host organizations looking to conduct a StellarCamp in 2023 will open early in the new year (January/February). In the meantime, general information about StellarCamps is available on our website.
The countdown is on for NASA’s Artemis I launch – the beginning of a series of missions that will bring humans back to the Moon and, one day, to Mars. When humans make these journeys, it will be in the Orion spacecraft, designed and built by Lockheed Martin.

During the Artemis I mission, Orion will travel around the Moon and back, and to help you follow along, Lockheed Martin is launching Explore Orion – a free mobile app that will give you a behind the scenes look at the world’s only spacecraft designed for deep space.

Explore Orion features space and Orion-themed trivia, videos, and quizzes, which will be updated frequently with new content leading up to and during the Artemis I mission.

In addition to all things Orion, the app features a special section for Callisto - a unique, vehicle-connected crew interface technology demonstration, which includes Amazon’s Alexa voice-activated virtual assistant and Webex by Cisco, a video communication and collaboration software tool.

Callisto is one of several payloads flying on the Artemis I mission to demonstrate how voice technology, AI and portable tablet-based video conferencing can help improve efficiency and situational awareness for those on board the spacecraft, providing access to real-time mission information and a virtual connection to people and information back on Earth.

With Explore Orion, users can submit comments to Callisto as it travels around the Moon. Comments will be displayed on Callisto’s screen throughout the Artemis I mission and replays will be made public so you can see your comment in space.

The app also lets you to explore a 3D model of the spacecraft and get your Orion questions answered by the engineers who built the spacecraft.

As the core stage and twin-solid rocket boosters propel the Space Launch System (SLS) off the launch pad, L3Harris’ avionics begin their journey that will last a short eight minutes. Those initial eight minutes are critical to propelling not only spacecraft but also humans out of Earth’s atmosphere and into orbit. From orbit, the upper stage continues the journey with in-space propulsion to set the spacecraft on a trajectory to reach the Moon and eventually Mars.

A United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket carrying the Space Based Infrared System Geosynchronous Earth Orbit-6 (SBIRS GEO 6) mission for the U.S. Space Force’s Space Systems Command lifted off on Aug. 4 at 6:29 a.m. EDT from Space Launch Complex-41 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. To date ULA has launched 152 times with 100 percent mission success.

Photos available on the ULA Flickr page.
SPACE NEWS

In case you missed it…

31 JUL 2022 | Watch the full moon dance over one year in stunning time-lapse
12 AUG 2022 | Space Station Science Highlights
12 AUG 2022 | SpaceX launches 46 Starlink satellites, lands rocket on drone ship
23 AUG 2022 | Blue Origin’s private Orbital Reef space station passes key design review
21 AUG 2022 | Space Force wargame challenges satellite operators to think critically
26 AUG 2022 | Webb telescope is already challenging what astronomers thought they knew
26 AUG 2022 | Why NASA is returning to the moon 50 years later with Artemis I
29 AUG 2022 | Black Hole Delivery Pipeline May Feed a Nearby Galaxy

MISCELLANEOUS

StellarXplorers is hiring!

We’re looking for a Program Manager! Under the direction and guidance of the Director of StellarXplorers Operations, the Program Manager is responsible for planning, coordinating, and conducting the StellarXplorers National Space Design Competition and managing the design team to create captivating real-life space industry scenarios.

Apply today with your cover letter and resume!

SPACE JOKES

Do you have a good space-themed joke or a puzzle to share? Send it to info@stellarxplorers.org with the subject line Newsletter Submission and you might just see it in the next edition of The StellarXpress!

Why didn’t the sun go to college? Because it already had a million degrees!

Why haven’t aliens come to our solar system yet? They read the reviews: one star

How did the space bear cross the road? Ewoked!

Source: https://www.scarymommy.com/space-puns-jokes
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