

Astronomy Open Night activities

(5pm – 10pm)

Activities	Location
Physics magic show Admission will be on first-in-first-served basis. Additional seating is available in adjacent theatres. Magic show times: 5.15pm – 6pm, 6.30pm – 7.15pm and 8.45pm – 9.30pm	Macquarie Theatre A
Exhibition Hall Our Exhibition Hall will be full of fun and exciting stalls from the local astronomical community, where you can chat about astronomy, science, studying physics and astronomy at Macquarie, getting in touch with your local astronomical society, what telescope to buy and much more.	14 Sir Christopher Ondaatje Avenue D
Planetariums Planetariums simulate the night sky and provide the opportunity to look up close at the motion of celestial objects, the surfaces of planets, deep sky objects, constellations and much more. Planetarium sessions are not dependent on the weather so will go ahead rain, hail or shine. Sessions run approximately every 20 minutes, starting at 5.15pm	The Marquee F
Telescope park Join us in exploring the cosmos – search for celestial objects such as planets, star clusters, and nebulae. There will be an amazing array of telescopes from Macquarie University Observatory, local astronomy clubs and individual astronomers. 6.30pm – 10pm	North 3 Carpark and Macquarie University Astronomical Observatory G
Laser guide star Why would an astronomer want to stop the stars from twinkling? Join us in the Central Courtyard to find out more. 6.30pm – 10pm	Central Courtyard
Science in the pub: Dr Phil’s tour of the solar system’s back streets Join Dr Phil Dooley (and his piano) and come on a rollicking ride to Pluto and back, looking around the Solar System for oxygen, moons, and Christmas presents. Find out why the other planets have ganged up on Pluto, and whether the most toxic place in the solar system is Uranus. Show times: 6pm – 6.45pm and 9pm – 9.45pm	UBar 1 Central Courtyard C
Phenomenal physics and mathematical mysteries Experience and nurture your love for science by joining us as we demonstrate some funky experiments! Engage with geometric thinking through solving puzzles, discover interesting facts with mobius strips and graphs on donuts, and explore the magic and mysteries behind some of the coolest scientific phenomena. 6pm – 10pm	Room 105 and 116 1 Central Courtyard E
Kids’ space Bring your little scientists along to learn about space, planets, gravity and building; and discover some of the tricks of physics and a whole lot more. Please note that children must at all times be accompanied by a parent or guardian while in this space.	Room 106-107 1 Central Courtyard E
Robotics room Come and drive one of the world-championship robots from the FIRST Robotics Competition. This program will allow all from ages 5+ to earn their robotics driver’s licence in a fun and exciting hands-on activity. 6pm – 10pm	Room 114-115 1 Central Courtyard E
The Huntsman Telescope Exploratorium Join Huntsman Telescope astronomers and uncover the mysteries of exoplanets and colliding galaxies. Discover what makes the Huntsman Telescope work and even do some live observing from under the darkest skies. 6pm – 10pm	Room 109 1 Central Courtyard E
Laser Maze Challenge Put your spy skills to the test in our kids’ laser maze challenge. Find your way through without touching any of the laser beams. Jumping, hopping and sneaking through, this challenge puts your agility to the test. 6pm – 10pm	Room 263 14 Sir Christopher Ondaatje Avenue D

Keynote lecture

(7.30pm – 8.30pm)

Activities	Location
Beyond the visible Universe: how new Astronomy observations will revolutionise Physics Professor Celine Boehm, University of Sydney	Macquarie Theatre A

Short talks

(6.30pm – 10pm)

The Macquarie University School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences and Astronomy Research Centre presents a series of short talks given by our astronomers and physicists. These talks are aimed at the general public and amateur astronomers and present a diverse range of astronomy and physics interests.

Located at 14 Christopher Ondaatje Avenue **D**

	Mason	T2	T3	T4	T5
6.30pm – 7pm	Fred Watson Webb’s new window on the universe	Daniel Zucker Galactic cannibalism: What has the milky way been eating – and what do those meals tell us about its figure?	Caro Derkenne Becoming an astronomer at Macquarie University	Ellen Houston Tiny fibres, big science: How optical fibres help astronomers uncover the secrets of the universe	Jo Dawson Radio eyes on the hydrogen sky
7pm – 7.30pm		Matt Owers The hostile environment of cosmic giants: Clusters of galaxies	Julia Wilks The Face behind Earth: The story of our closest stellar ally	Rami Mandow 10 wacky things about pulsars	Marnie Ogg After dark
8.30pm – 9pm	Devika Kamath Demystifying the chemical complexity of the universe	Daniel Terno Black holes, white holes, wormholes: Physics learning from sci-fi	Stuart Ryder Astronomy from the stratosphere – my NASA missions	Kristina Kopychynski The Planetarium: An inflatable learning tool	Amy Miller Unraveling the magellanic clouds with visible and invisible light
9pm – 9.30pm	Richard McDermid Giant eyes on ancient skies	Rich Mildren Recipes for making fake stars	Angel R Lopez Sanchez A beginners guide to astrophotography	David Adams “OK, but how are we going to actually make that?” The engineering behind the astronomy	Beth Cappellazzo Beams and dreams: My undergraduate astronomy experience at Macquarie University

Note: ● = Map reference