

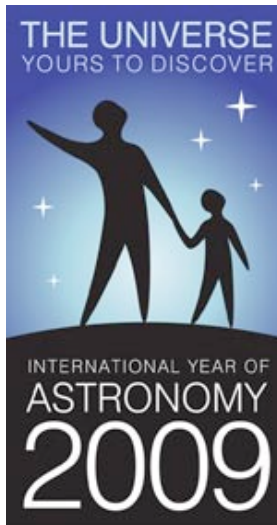
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## 2009 - 2010 Astronomy Public Viewing at the WKU Observatory

Experience the wonders of the celestial sphere! The faculty of Western Kentucky University's Physics and Astronomy Department offer the public an opportunity to observe the heavens through the telescopes on the roof of Thompson Complex, Central Wing (TCCW). An indoor program will be presented if weather conditions do not permit observing. **Meet in the lobby of Thompson Complex, Central Wing** (next to Hardin Planetarium). Please dress warmly, standing around outside in the dark can be very chilling. Children twelve years of age and under must be accompanied by an adult. There is **no charge for participation**.



**Upcoming Dates:** **Wednesday, August 12 at 8:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, September 9 at 8:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, November 11 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m.**

The annual Perseid meteor shower peaks in mid-August when the orbit of the Earth passes near the orbital path of Comet Swift-Tuttle. The Perseid shower and objects near the center of our Milky Way Galaxy will be our targets on **8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 12.**

Jupiter is brilliant in the night sky for this month's observing at **8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9.** The moons Galileo discovered 400 years ago will be the focus of the night.

On **7:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 14** we will focus the telescopes on stars that orbit around other stars, and stellar systems where we have discovered planets.

Locations in our Milky Way Galaxy where stars are currently forming and where stars have recently died will be our targets on **7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 11.**

During the **7:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 9** public viewing session our telescopes will be pointed at the star clusters in our Milky Way galaxy and at other galaxies far, far away.

Our nearest large neighbor galaxy, the Andromeda Galaxy, will be a prime target for the observing scheduled for **7:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 13.**

For further information contact: Western Kentucky University Dept of Physics & Astronomy  
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