

## Highlights:

I: ASX at Ontario Science Center  
– Jan. 10, 2009

II: ASX FoS2  
– Jan. 13, 2009

III: ASX Symposium  
– Jan. 23, 2009

IV: Other Astro/  
Space Events

V: International  
Space News

Happy New Year Fellow Astronomy and Space Enthusiasts,

We hope you had a wonderful holiday season. We have started a special year. As you may know, 2009 is recognized as the "International Year of Astronomy" (IYA) by 136 nations around the globe. In addition, the City of Toronto has proclaimed Jan. 10th as the "International Year of Astronomy Kick-Off Day in Toronto". To get the celebrations started the Ontario Science Centre is hosting The Toronto Astronomy Festival, on (Sat) Jan.10, 2009 (more details below).

Another interesting news involves a press release issued on Jan. 5, announcing that the University of Toronto astronomers are giving the sun, the moon and the stars to riders of Toronto public transit (the TTC) this month with a series of high-impact ads that promote the celestial science as part of 2009's International Year of Astronomy." Look for these ads! More info: [www.coolcosmos.net](http://www.coolcosmos.net)

See below for more news and events, and do obtain your tickets for ASX's 6<sup>th</sup> annual Symposium (Jan 23), if you have not done so already.

Clear Skies,  
ASX

## I. ASX at the Ontario Science Center - Toronto Astronomy Festival

**DATE & TIME:** Saturday January 10, 2009,  
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Ontario Science Center  
[770 Don Mills Road, Toronto](http://www.utoronto.ca/sciencecenter)



Toronto's astronomical community invites you to enjoy an all-day festival at the Science Centre. Admission is free\* for festival events.

*Availability is limited. For advance tickets call (416) 429-4100.*

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- \* An exhibitor's hall featuring local and national astronomy organizations
- \* Observing the Sun's dynamic surface through safely-filtered telescopes
- \* Space-themed music, films and art
- \* Astronomy workshops, displays, demonstrations and free giveaways
- \* Breathtaking images by Canadian astronomers
- \* Renowned speakers in astronomy and space sciences
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If you did not receive this e-newsletter directly, and would like to hear about future ASX news and events, please email [space.society@utoronto.ca](mailto:space.society@utoronto.ca) with subject line "Newsletter Signup". We also invite you to join our Facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2226718345>

## II. ASX's 6<sup>th</sup> annual "Faces of Space" (FoS) – Lecture 2: Featuring Dan Falk, Science Author

**TOPIC:** In Search of Time: Journeys Along a Curious Dimension

**DATE & TIME:** Tuesday, January 13, 2009; 7PM-9PM

**LOCATION:** University of Toronto St. George Campus  
Medical Sciences Building, Room 2172 (MS2172)

[1 King's College Cir, Toronto](#)

Toronto's own Science Author Dan Falk, talks about his new book "In Search of Time". Dan will be talking all about time - from how our ancestors created it, to how we travel through it. Come join us after the talk, around 8PM, at Einstein's Cafe and Pub at 229 College St. to socialize and have some food!



## III. ASX Symposium – Ticketing & Other Updates

ASX's 6th annual Symposium, titled "The Global Space Age" is approaching soon:

**DATE & TIME:** Friday, January 23, 2009, 7:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Convocation Hall, University of Toronto

**ADMISSION:** Students: **FREE** (with ID); Public: \$20

**SPEAKER UPDATES:** We are pleased to announce the addition of Ying Du, from China Academy of Space Technology (CAST) in Beijing, China. In addition, due to an unexpected conflict in Laura Lucier's schedule, Taryn Tomlinson will be our speaker from CSA. Here is the 2009 Symposium's updated list of our most prestigious speakers:



**Anousheh Ansari**

Private Space Explorer; Prodea Systems Inc Chairman & CEO

**Topic:** Privatization of Space



**Taryn Tomlinson**

Robotics Systems Engineer, CSA (Canadian Space Agency)

**Topic:** Collaboration in Space



**Ying Du**

Senior Engineer, CAST (China Academy of Space Technology)

**Topic:** China in Space

ASX's annual Symposium has featured astronauts, leaders, top researchers and scientists in the space industry, and has attracted well over 1,000 attendees in a single event. This is ASX's LARGEST and most INSPIRATIONAL event of the year. We expect this year's Symposium to be a great event to help kick-start the 2009 IYA (International Year of Astronomy).

#### TICKETING:

**This will be a popular event, so for guaranteed seating reserve your tickets early:**

Students: <http://asx2009symposium.eventbrite.com>

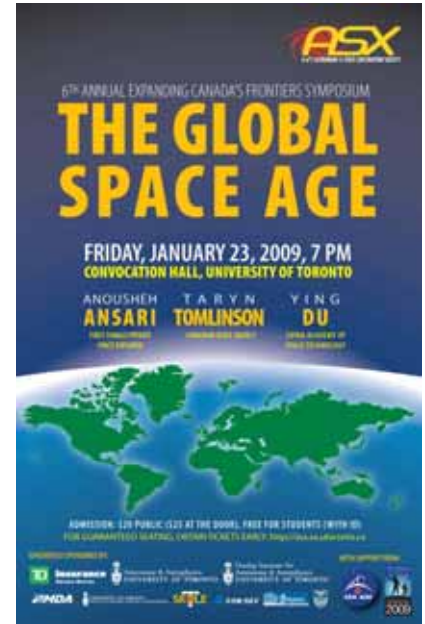
Public: <http://uofttix.ca/view.php?id=438>

For more event details, see <http://asx.sa.utoronto.ca/symposium>

#### SEEKING VOLUNTEERS:

ASX is seeking volunteers for the Symposium. If you are interested in participating in the planning of one of the largest events run at the University of Toronto, email us at

[space.society@utoronto.ca](mailto:space.society@utoronto.ca), with subject line "Symposium Volunteering". Let us know if you would like to help in a particular area (e.g. promotions, program logistics, day of event, etc).



## IV. Other Upcoming Astronomy/Space Events (free unless specified)



**Tuesday January 20, 2009, 7:30 PM**

### **Canadian Space Society (CSS) Annual General Meeting**

Toronto Aerospace Museum  
Downsview Park (65 Carl Hall Road)  
More info: <http://www.css.ca>

**Wednesday January 21, 2009, 7:30 PM**

### **RASC Toronto Meeting**

#### ***Breakthrough in hunt for exoplanets: the first direct images***

David Lafreniere, University of Toronto  
Imperial Oil Auditorium at the Ontario Science Centre  
More info: <http://toronto.rasc.ca/content/RM-2009-01-21.shtml>



**(Wed) Jan 21 – (Sun) Jan 25, 2009**

### **The Galileo Project: Music of the Spheres**

An imaginative concert from Alison Mackay  
Trinity-St. Paul's Centre (427 Bloor St. W)  
Various times and pricing  
More info: <http://tafelmusik.org>

## V. International Space News

### 2009 is the International Year of Astronomy

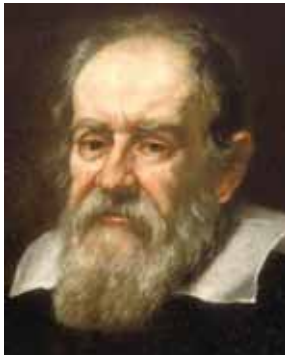
In 2009, 136 nations will celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the telescope. Ontario's contribution? The IYA slogan. Look for the astronomy ads on the TTC during the month of January as well.

More info: <http://www.astronomy2009.org>

Canadian website: <http://www.astronomy2009.ca>



### 2009 is the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Telescope (sort of)



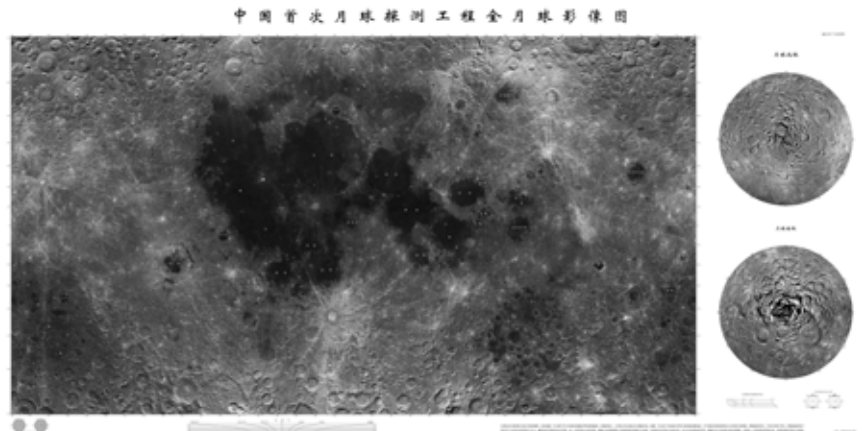
While the telescope was technically invented in the Netherlands in 1608, it was refined and first used for science by Galileo in 1609. Galileo made some startling discoveries – namely that Jupiter had 4 moons. This evidence helped support the Copernican view that it was the Sun, not the Earth, that was at the centre of the Solar System. Galileo was eventually forced to recant his beliefs as heretical. On the plus side, he is now considered the “father of astronomy”, the “father of physics” and the “father of modern science”.

More info: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galileo\\_Galilei](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galileo_Galilei)

### China produces a full Map of the Moon

Move over Google Earth! Chang'e, China's lunar probe has just completed a full map of the moon.

Google still has an edge on the Chinese, though it might be time for a partnership with the China Space Agency.



More info: <http://www.google.com/moon/>

<http://images.spaceref.com/news/2008/chinamoonmap.l.jpg>

For national space events, see CSS discussion lists at <http://www.css.ca/index.php/discussion-lists>  
CSS Facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=12706081197>