

International Year of Astronomy  
2009 is here — and Nova Scotia  
is celebrating!

THE UNIVERSE  
YOURS TO DISCOVER



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF  
ASTRONOMY  
**2009**

*Celebrating  
400 Years Since Galileo  
Changed the World with  
his Telescope*

**Astronomy  
Nova Scotia**

Astrophoto of M42 *The Orion Nebula*  
by Blair MacDonald

[www.AstronomyNovaScotia.ca](http://www.AstronomyNovaScotia.ca)

# What is the International Year of Astronomy all about?

The International Year of Astronomy 2009 (IYA2009) is a global celebration of astronomy and its contributions to society and culture, stimulating worldwide interest in astronomy and science in general, with a particular slant towards young people.

IYA2009 is an activity for the citizens of Planet Earth. It aims to convey the excitement of personal discovery, the pleasure of sharing fundamental knowledge about the Universe and our place in it and the value of scientific culture.

IYA2009 celebrates the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first use of the telescope to explore the night sky. His telescopic observations of the Moon, the Milky Way, Jupiter, and Venus revolutionized our view of the cosmos.



**International IYA2009**  
[www.astronomy2009.org](http://www.astronomy2009.org)

**Canadian IYA2009**  
[www.astronomy2009.ca](http://www.astronomy2009.ca)



# What is Astronomy Nova Scotia?

Astronomy Nova Scotia is sponsoring astronomical events in Halifax and the province of Nova Scotia throughout 2009 to celebrate and promote the International Year of Astronomy.

Astronomy Nova Scotia is made up of volunteer amateur and professional astronomers as well as our partners:

- Department of Astronomy & Physics at Saint Mary's University
- Halifax Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
- Halifax Public Libraries
- Minas Astronomy Group based in Wolfville, Nova Scotia
- Discovery Centre Nova Scotia's Hands-On Science Centre
- Department of Physics & Atmospheric Science at Dalhousie University (Halifax Planetarium Committee)

The Astronomy Nova Scotia website is a "one stop shop" for information about International Year of Astronomy 2009 in Nova Scotia.

# What's happening in Nova Scotia?

Astronomy Nova Scotia has created a year-long program of events including:

- public lectures by astronomers
- "sidewalk" observing sessions
- professional observatory tours
- presentations at Public Library branches
- shopping mall displays
- astronomers in classrooms
- activities for youth groups
- public Halifax Planetarium shows
- StarLab for kids at the Discovery Centre
- Star Trail contest for students
- outdoor star parties

**Remember to visit our website for details or to request a speaker.**  
[www.astronomynovascotia.ca](http://www.astronomynovascotia.ca)



[www.AstronomyNovaScotia.ca](http://www.AstronomyNovaScotia.ca)