

“Happy Holidays” written using galaxy images from the Galaxy Zoo



From all of us in the Cornell Astronomy Department

As we mark the end of another Earth year, we want to share with you some Cornell Astronomy highlights from 2014 (more news at <http://www.astro.cornell.edu/news/display/latest-news.html>):

- Professor David Chernoff taught a MOOC (massive online open course) on “Relativity and Astrophysics” . Perhaps some of you took it!
- Undergraduate George McDonald ('14) was presented the Stephen E. Dwornik Award at the Lunar and Planetary Science Conference.
- Professor Peter Gierasch received the 2014 Gerald P. Kuiper Prize from the Division of Planetary Sciences of the American Astronomical Society.
- The Mars Rover “Opportunity” set the off-Earth driving record at 25 miles.
- Professor Jonathan Lunine was awarded the Jean-Dominique Cassini Medal by the European Geosciences Union.
- Undergraduate student Anirudh Chiti ('14) and graduate student Natalia Storch received the Cranson W. and Edna B. Shelley Awards for outstanding research.
- Graduate student Eva-Maria Mueller received the Eleanor York prize for outstanding research, outreach and citizenship.
- Graduate student Tyler Pauly was awarded the Cranson W. And Edna B. Shelley award for outstanding achievement as a teaching assistant.
- Professor Bruce Balick (PhD '71) of the University of Washington delivered stimulating talks centered on fantastic images from the Hubble Space Telescope as the Terzian Lecturer.
- Associate Professor Lisa Kaltenegger joined the Astronomy faculty as Director of the new Institute for Pale Blue Dots.
- Professors Riccardo Giovanelli and Martha Haynes led a CAU study tour “The Concept of Time in Parma and Bologna From Copernicus to Cosmology” in the Emilia-Romagna region of northern Italy, featuring sundials, clocks, castles, art, history, astronomy, gastronomy and a lot of gelato!
- The second “Frontiers of Cornell Astronomy” symposium featured a series of lively talks by various members of the Cornell Astronomy Department.



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We wish you a COSMIC NEW YEAR!

And invite you to our future events:

May 8-9, 2015: A Friends of Astronomy event in conjunction with the inauguration of the Institute for Pale Blue Dots. Further information will be available in early 2015.

July 5-11, 2015: Professor Martha Haynes will lead an on-campus CAU course entitled “The Intriguing Lives of Galaxies”. See http://www.sce.cornell.edu/cau/on_campus/courses.php.