



www.nightskyfestival.org

The Night Sky Festival is an annual event that celebrates Joshua Tree National Park's night sky. This event is a major fundraiser for Sky's The Limit Observatory and Nature Center (STL) and Joshua Tree Residential Education Experience (JTREE), both are non-profit organizations.

Event festivities will include morning and evening events, plus a special night sky photography workshop starting on Friday, September 23. Saturday is a star-filled day with multiple sessions...some are open registration and others are pre-purchased tickets only.

All tickets and registration are online only at www.nightskyfestival.org. Add-ons such as VIP Parking will be available during online purchase of your tickets.

Tickets include a shuttle from Luckie Park in Twentynine Palms to Sky's The Limit. For people with disabilities, accessible transportation will be provided by contacting us at contact@skysthelimit29.org.

Tickets go on sale beginning June 24, 2022. Tickets are limited, so get yours quickly...they do sell out!

NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR.

Glow-In-The-Dark Souvenir T-Shirts will only be sold **online** until midnight, Thursday, June 30. After that, shirts will be available on the day of the event during registration at the Luckie Park Community Center on a first-come, first-served basis until supplies run out. Adult sizes are \$20, youth sizes are \$15. **Order your shirts now, as you purchase your tickets!**

REGISTRATION & STAR-FUN

Saturday, September 24 | 1:00 – 8:30 pm | Community Center at Luckie Park

All tickets for paid events must be PURCHASED IN ADVANCE! All Night Sky Pass wristbands, VIP Parking vouchers, activity tickets and other important information MUST be picked up at the registration table at the Community Center at Luckie Park, Twentynine Palms. While you are there, have some star-fun at our new space photo booth and get creative with youth crafts (from 1 to 5:30 pm). Visit the information tables for International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) and other supporting organizations. These activities are FREE.



ORRERY, NATURE/WILDERNESS TRAILS & YOUTH CRAFTS

Saturday, September 4 | 9:00 am – noon

Definition: orrery [awr-uh-ree] *noun*, a scaled model of the solar system.

The morning program held at Sky's The Limit offers short hikes on easy trails with docents explaining the plants, animals, and geology of our special environment. Youth can participate in the youth crafts group. This morning program will also feature a solar telescope and walkable Orrery. *The Orrery is a scale model of our solar system that is large enough to walk around and through.* These events are included in your Saturday Star Pass, but **please register for specific time slots**. Order your glow-in-the-dark t-shirts online NOW; after June 30 they will ONLY be available at the registration check-in at the Luckie Park Community Center, first come, first served until they are sold out.

PANNING FOR GOLD

Saturday, September 24 | 9:00 am – noon | \$10 per miner

With First Class Miners at Sky's The Limit Observatory

Join First Class Miners, a family orientated, educational non-profit organization founded in 1993 for a real panning for gold experience in the Mojave Desert. Created by twenty students of the first prospecting class at Copper Mountain College in 1992, it was appropriately named First Class Miners. Since 2005, First Class Miners has provided educational mining and gold panning demonstrations at local events around the Morongo Basin.

Some of their members have been panning for quite some time and are very excited to show us all how they do it. As an added element to the event, they will have their mobile historical mining museum. By the way...any gold found during a panning event is kept by the finder.

First Class Miner's President, Ron Matthias notes, *"Hey, kids...I'm almost sure after our team of volunteer miners show you how to pan for gold, you might just find some! Dads and Moms, you are also welcomed to give it a try."*

AFTERNOON ASTRONOMY PRESENTATIONS

These lectures will be held in Patriotic Hall at Luckie Park in Twentynine Palms. Lectures are free but sign up early since space is limited. These lectures have been quite popular!

Bob Meadows | *The National Park Service Night Skies Program - Working to Preserve and Restore a Universal Resource*

Saturday, September 24 | 1-2 pm

Bob Meadows is a Physical Scientist with the National Park Service, Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division (NPS) presents an introduction to who we are, what we do, and the origins of the program within the NPS. Bob works for the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division of the National Park Service (NPS). He works with parks throughout the entire NPS system providing support in their efforts to manage the night sky resource. This includes collecting night sky quality data with specialized camera equipment, assisting with outdoor lighting efforts, and leading the Night Sky Academy bi-annual training for NPS staff. Bob has worked for the National Park Service for 36 years, the last 11 years with the Night Skies Program.

NASA / JWST Subject Matter Expert *TBD | *NASA James Webb Space Telescope (JWST)*

Saturday, September 24 | 2:15-3:15 pm

A NASA/JWST Space Telescope Subject Matter Expert (name to be announced) will discuss the NASA James Webb Space Telescope. Here you can learn about the most powerful telescope ever launched into space and why astronomers, and the world, are so excited about what JWST will discover.

Dean Regas | *I Want to Believe: Returning to an Age of Reason*

Saturday, September 24 | 3:30-4:30 pm

Dean Regas is an Astronomer for the Cincinnati Observatory. After 20 years of public speaking at the Cincinnati Observatory, Dean Regas has heard every astronomy conspiracy theory and doomsday prediction in the universe – and frankly, he's worried. He's worried that we are slipping into an age of growing superstition. In this rational, often humorous lecture, Dean tackles such controversial topics as: The Mayan Calendar, Moon landing, UFO sightings, Doomsday Comets, Astrology, and the Star of Bethlehem. The truth is out there, and Dean shows why it is important to confront superstitions head-on and how you can champion a new age of reason.

As the co-host of PBS' Star Gazers, Dean Regas brought the wonder of the night sky to TV sets around the country and embody the phrase, "Keep Looking Up!" As the Outreach Astronomer for the Cincinnati Observatory since 2000, Dean communicates his love of astronomy through 150 lectures per year to people of all ages.

NIGHT SKY STAR PARTY – "NIGHT SKY PASS"

Saturday, September 24 | 7 – 11 pm | \$55 (adults), \$35 (6-12)

With your Night Sky Pass purchases, you can view the spectacular features of our desert sky during this night-time star party through 20 telescopes with astronomers at each as these experts explain what you are seeing...all while taking constellation tours and enjoying live music and night sky storytelling. This year's special music guest is Amanda Pascali and Family. www.amandapascali.com



**Included with your pass are activities at Sky's The Limit Observatory on Saturday morning between 9 am and noon as noted above. Panning for Gold with First Class Miners would be a separate ticket, also noted above.*

VIP PARKING | \$50: Avoid waits, come & go as you please...purchase your VIP Parking tickets to park right on the Sky's The Limit campus. Only 50 spaces available.

Please note there is also accessible shuttle service from Luckie Park to and from Sky's The Limit. All Accessible spots are free at the Luckie Park Community Center in 29 Palms. An accessible van, on an approximately 40-minute round trip schedule, will transport wheelchair users and special needs guests to the drop-off spot on the accessible route to telescopes, music, and constellation tours on Sky's The Limit campus. VIP spots on the STL campus are not on the accessible route. Wheelchair users and special needs guests may be dropped off at the accessible route by companions who will then park in a VIP parking spot. Those companions will be able to pick up at the same spot at any time during the evening. The advantage to purchasing a VIP parking spot is maximum control over your arrival and departure during the evening. Shuttle service will run approximately every 20 minutes; vans approximately every 40 minutes. **VIP parking passes are ONLY available for pre-paid purchase online.**

NIGHT SKY LIGHT PAINTING PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Friday, September 3 | 8:00 – 10:00 pm | Cap Rock in Joshua Tree National Park

\$180 per person | Limited to 5 Participants (minimum age 14)

Spend the evening with professional photographer, Casey Kiernan, making unique light painting images of the night sky at Cap Rock inside Joshua Tree National Park. You will learn multiple lighting techniques. Be prepared for a very creative workshop!

Casey has been a professional photographer for over two decades, with coverage in numerous magazines, including cover shots. Casey's works have appeared on CBS News, Al Jazeera, History Channel, Los Angeles Independent Film Festival, Gila Film Festival and numerous other publications. Casey specializes in 4K, motion-control, time-lapse, Milky Way photography, Iceland landscapes, desert landscapes and cityscapes, including aerial drone filming. Additionally, Casey is the videographer for Joshua Tree National Park. His work can be viewed on Getty Images and [Vimeo](#).

EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:

This workshop requires that you have a DSLR (or mirrorless) camera which allows for the manual settings of aperture, exposure duration and ISO. The camera should support interchangeable lenses. 50MM or 24-70MM is ideal, but wider is acceptable (lenses can be rented online). You will also need a tripod. Checkout Casey's Gear Guides for more information at www.joshuatreeworkshops.com/gear-overview