**Education & Outreach**

**Visitor Nights**
During *Visitor Nights*, guests explore the night skies through the UCI Observatory’s telescopes and learn to find planets, stars and nebulae. Guests will also learn to use a night sky map and listen to a lecture from a UCI astrophysicist. *Visitor Nights* are offered to the Friends of the UCI Observatory and to the public approximately six times per year. Additionally, they are offered during meteor showers, solar and lunar eclipses.

**Classroom and Group Tours**
Day tours of the UCI Observatory are available for the public including K-12 schools. Classroom visits are also available for K-12 schools. A typical tour or classroom visit includes a presentation on an astronomy related topic and hands-on activities.

**COSMOS**
California State Summer School for Math and Science (COSMOS) is a month-long residential program for high school students who have demonstrated exceptional talent in math and science. UCI has taught the summer COSMOS Astronomy and Astrophysics cluster of classes since the program’s inception in 2000.

Learn more about the UCI Observatory at ps.uci.edu/~observatory or contact Professor Tammy Smecker-Hane at tsmecker@uci.edu.

**The UCI Observatory** is managed by the Department of Physics & Astronomy at the University of California, Irvine (UCI). The UCI Observatory hosts a large computer-controlled 24-inch telescope and numerous other smaller, portable, telescopes. Used for educational purposes, including classroom learning and experiments, the UCI Observatory also serves as a great venue for group and community affairs such as K-12 school field-trips, scout troop gatherings, and the popular *Visitor Nights*. 
The Milky Way is so large that if it were shrunk down to the size of the Pacific Ocean, the solar system itself would be the size of a maple leaf. The Earth is microscopic on this scale. Yet, confined to this microscopic planet, humans have mapped the ocean of stars to staggering precision. More than once we have been forced to accept a universe that defies Earth-bound notions of what is plausible: Our universe began with a Bang 13.7 billion years ago. It is filled with dark matter, dark energy, and at least one planet with people who look up and ask why. UCI’s astrophysicists study the cosmos from subatomic particles to galaxies and everything in between. Learn about the leading astronomical research taking place at UC Irvine at http://ps.uci.edu/~observat/experts.

As a Friend of the UCI Observatory, you will have the opportunity to get involved with the UCI Observatory and engage with UCI’s leading astrophysicists. With your financial support, the UCI Observatory will continue serving the community. Sign up at ps.uci.edu/~observat/memberships or contact Tammy Smecker-Hane at tsmecker@uci.edu.

**Star Patron: $50 - $150**
- $50 - Student
- $100 - Individual
- $150 - Family (2 adults and children under 18)
- UCI Observatory Visitor Nights.
- Discover the Universe at exclusive lecture and reception.
- Recognition on UCI Observatory’s website.

**Supernova Patron: $500**
- All the preceding Star Patron benefits, PLUS
  - Ask an Astrophysicist and get answers through online video segments.
  - Discover the Universe lecture, reception and dinner for one.
  - What’s New in the Universe? quarterly roundtable luncheon with astrophysicists (for one person).

**Galaxy Patron: $1,000**
- All the preceding Supernova Patron benefits, PLUS
  - Discover the Universe lecture, reception and dinner for two.
  - What’s New in the Universe? quarterly roundtable luncheon with astrophysicists (for two people).
  - Exclusive star-gazing event at the UCI Observatory.

**Big Bang Patron: $5,000+**
- The opportunities below are subject to contribution amounts.
  - Observatory tours and classroom visits for K-12 schools.
  - Graduate student fellowships.
  - Astrophysical research.
  - Name a Telescope.
  - Invite UCI astrophysicists to talk to your group or event.
  - Hold a private event at the UCI Observatory!