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Lehigh Valley Space Fest is go for launch. What to know for this weekend's free event | Time, schedule

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The inaugural Lehigh Valley Space Fest will be May 6-7 at Paxinosa Elementary School in Easton. Logo courtesy Lehigh Valley Space Fest



By [Steve Novak](#) | [For lehighvalleylive.com](#)

UPDATE: Lehigh Valley Space Fest lifts off toward its lofty goal — inspiration (PHOTOS)

The inaugural [Lehigh Valley Space Fest](#) lands in Easton this weekend, and it comes in peace.

Its two-day mission to “[bring space down to Earth](#)” is the work of two local [NASA Solar System Ambassadors](#), Todd Sullivan of Easton and Marty McGuire (aka the [Backyard Astronomy Guy](#)) of Bethlehem. The duo, through the help of volunteers, has pulled together a weekend full of displays, activities and presentations from space scientists, amateur astronomers and other enthusiasts.

Oh, and you can [win a telescope](#).

Here’s what to know about this weekend’s free event.

When and where

Lehigh Valley Space Fest will be Saturday and Sunday, May 6 and 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Paxinosa Elementary School, 1221 Northampton St. in Easton.

Schedule highlights



Lehigh Valley Space Fest will allow visitors to peer at the sun through a specially filtered telescope. Above, Jeff Mucklin of the Nurture Nature Center in Easton looks through just such a setup in Centre Square in 2019. Steve Novak | For lehighvalleylive.com

Activities, displays and presentations are intended to be both educational and fun, Sullivan said.

A mobile planetarium and a moon bounce will both be going through the weekend. A specially equipped telescope will allow safe looks at the sun. Kids can make craters and posters at scheduled times both days. Stomp-rocket building is planned for midday Sunday.

On Sunday, model rocket expert will have models up to 12 feet tall on display, and the Lehigh University Space Initiative Club will demonstrate its Mars rover prototype.

Presentations over the weekend include [astrophysicist Lia Medeiros](#), who will talk about [imaging black holes](#) after her recent research enhancing the first-ever picture of one; and [exoplanet expert Joshua Pepper](#), a Lehigh University professor and NASA program scientist. Talks geared toward younger audiences include book readings and a discussion on satellites.

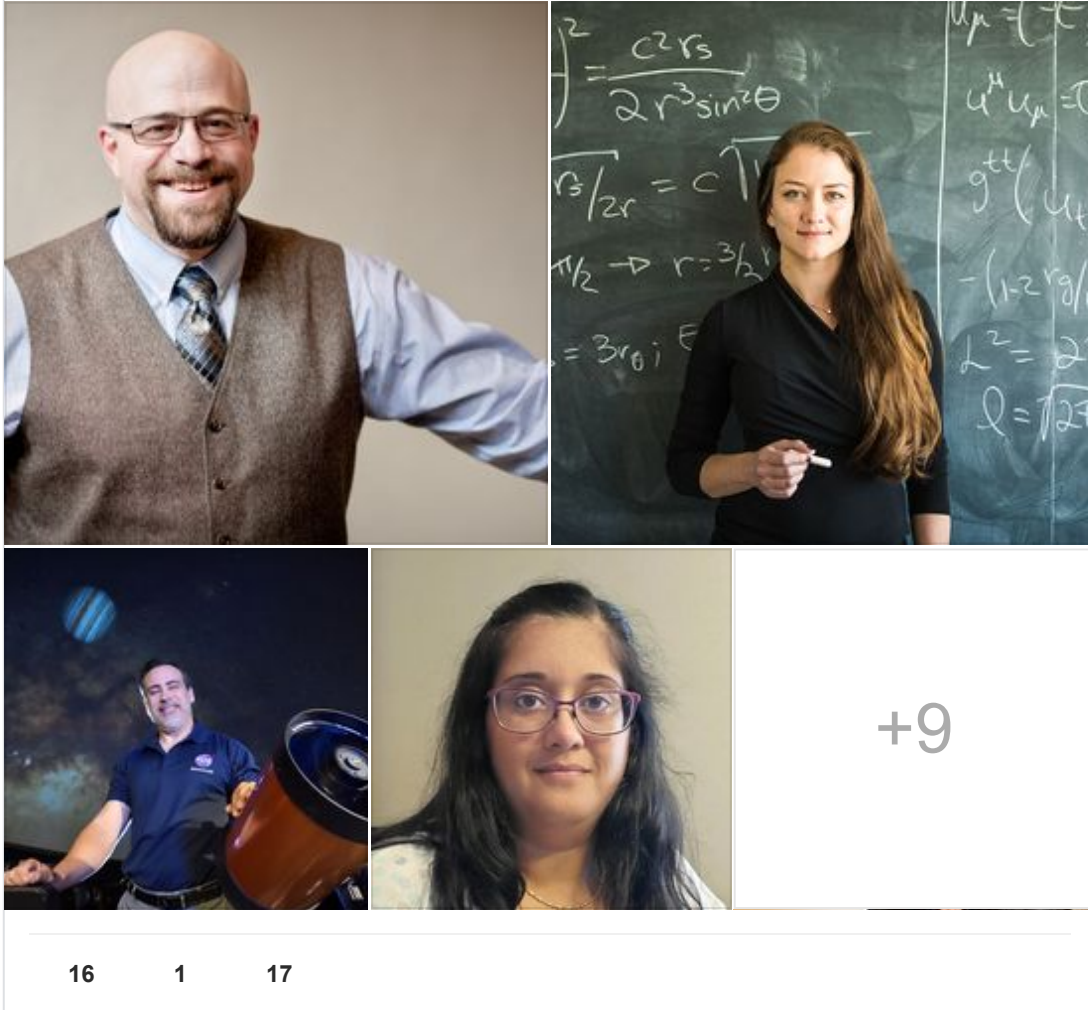


Lehigh Valley Space Fest

about a year ago



Check out some of our amazing presenters, exhibitors and volunteers at [Lehigh Valley Space Fest](#) May 6-7, 2023 at Paxinosa Elementary School in Easton, PA! You definitely don't want to miss this FREE event for the whole family! View our out-of-this-world event schedule at www.lvspacefest.org/schedule



Off-site activities are planned Saturday at the Nurture Nature Center, 522 Northampton St., including a star party where staff will guide views through telescopes from 8-10 p.m.

See the full schedule [at lvspacefest.org/schedule](http://lvspacefest.org/schedule).

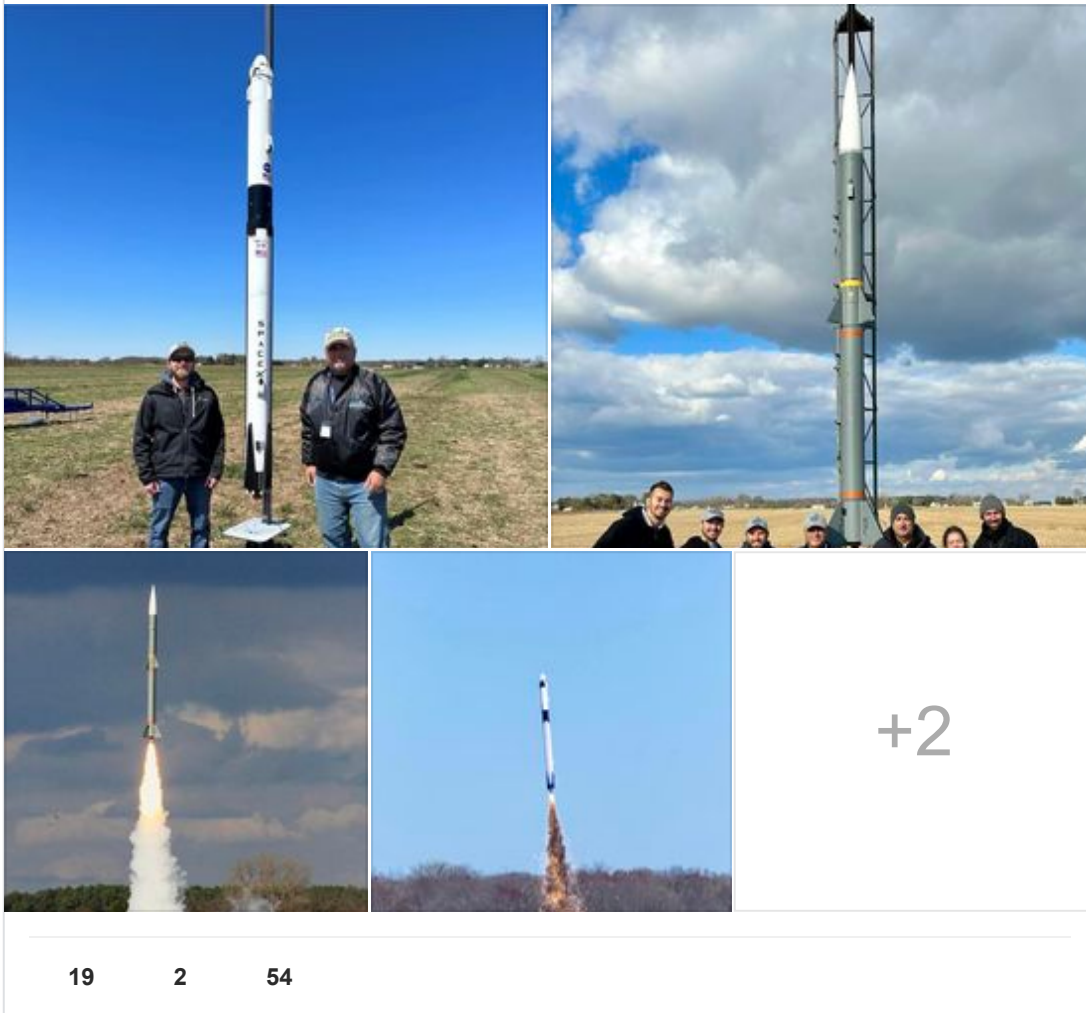


Lehigh Valley Space Fest
about a year ago



Exciting new addition to [Lehigh Valley Space Fest](#) on Sunday, May 7, 2023 From 10am-5pm (don't miss Saturday May 6 either). Come see huge model rockets on display like you've never seen before! Learn from Joe Pallitta ([Aerospace Rocketry](#)) about hobby model rocketry and see this 9-foot high SpaceX Falcon 9 and 12-foot high model of a missile! This will be a display only and no launches will occur.

And for more rockets, [Da Vinci Science Center's](#) kids activity on Sunday will ...
[See more](#)



Telescope raffle

Raffle tickets will be sold both days for chances in a drawing for a new Celestron telescope, including eyepieces and other accessories like a solar filter and special glasses to view the 2024 solar eclipse. No need to be present for the drawing at 4 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are \$2 for one or \$5 for three. Proceeds help fund the nonprofit, volunteer-led Space Fest — [donations](#) are also encouraged.



Lehigh Valley Space Fest

about a year ago



Donations are appreciated!

While our May 6-7, 2023 event is free to the public and run by volunteers, we do have a bunch of administrative costs to cover. If you'd like to support [Lehigh Valley Space Fest](#)'s mission to "bring space down to Earth and inspire future generations through an out-of-this-world, annual event," please visit our GoFundMe below- any amount will help!

Thanks!

-Todd Sullivan (Founder)... [See more](#) — in [Easton](#).



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Help us launch "Lehigh Valley Space Fest", organized by Marty M...

Hi, we're Todd Sullivan & Marty McGuire, founding partners of Lehigh Valley S.....

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