

KILOLANI



'IMILOA
Astronomy Center of Hawaii

The Stargazer

photo by Sam Low

Volume 5, Issue 1

'Ianauli (January) 2010

Aloha mai!

Welcome to 'Imiloa's monthly membership e-newsletter, *Kilolani*. Please send your comments and feedback to our Membership and Development Office at membership@imiloahawaii.org or call (808) 969-9732.

'Imiloa Astronomy Center is open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Tuesday through Sunday, and on these holidays: King Kamehameha Day and Independence Day (Fourth of July). We're closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Calendar of Events at a Glance

-- details provided below

Every Saturday: Keiki Kilohoku Korner activities from 9:30 am to 11:00 am
10:00 am *Legends of the Night Sky: Orion*

January 6: *Science Rocks!* after-school program

January 8: *IBEX: Search for the Edge* Member Preview by RSVP

January 8: *Laser Beatles* at 7:30 pm and *Hypnotica* 9:00 pm

January 9: *IBEX: Search for the Edge* - NEW planetarium show at 1:00 and 3:00 pm

January 13: *Science Rocks!* after-school program

January 15: *Laser Beatles* at 7:30 pm and *Hypnotica* at 9:00 pm

January 16: 2010 *Maunakea Skies* Lecture Series begins at 7:00 pm

January 20: *Science Rocks!* after-school program

January 22: *Laser Beatles* at 7:30 pm and *Hypnotica* at 9:00 pm

January 27: *Science Rocks!* after-school program

January 29: *Laser Beatles* at 7:30 pm and *Hypnotica* at 9:00 pm - LAST showing!

February 20: *Maunakea Skies* Lecture Series at 7:00 pm

February 28: 'Imiloa's Birthday Bash/Community Free Day/Journey through the Universe

March 19-22: Wayfinding and Navigation Crew Training Workshops

March 20: *Maunakea Skies* Lecture Series at 7:00 pm

April 6-9: Merrie Monarch Festival Workshops at 'Imiloa

June 1-4: *Science Rocks!* Summer Camp for Girls

June 8-11: *Science Rocks!* Summer Camp for Boys

September: Celebrate Museums Month

October 15-17: 3rd Annual Hilo Wayfinding and Navigation Festival

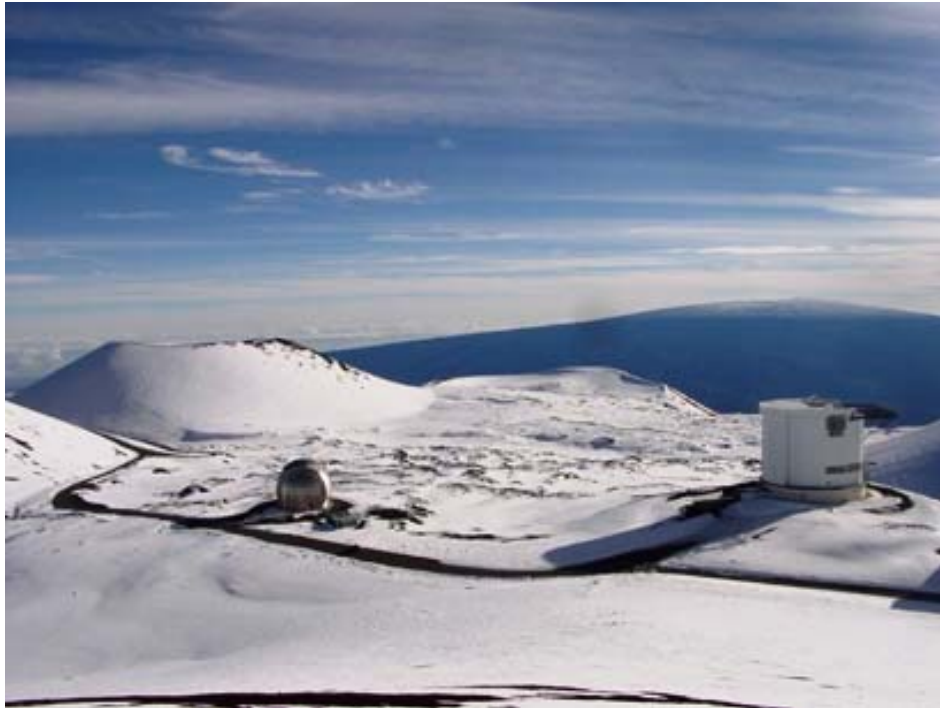
October 30: Halloween Spooky Science Hall - CSI Edition

December 3: 3rd Annual Member Mahalo Holiday Party

Questions about any of the above events? Call our front desk at 969-9703.

Image of the Month

A White Christmas on Maunakea



[Click here](#) for the explanation of our January Image of the Month!

Upcoming Events and Activities

'Imiloa Museum Theatre Performances

'Imiloa is currently hosting UH Hilo student interns as Museum Theatre Performers. These interns will be presenting various topics through skits, lectures, and theatre. Almost every day that 'Imiloa is open, these interns give guests the opportunity to learn about an exciting topic -- **FREE** with paid admission.

The Hawaiian Star Compass

12:15 pm - Tuesdays

Lauhala Gathering & Preparation

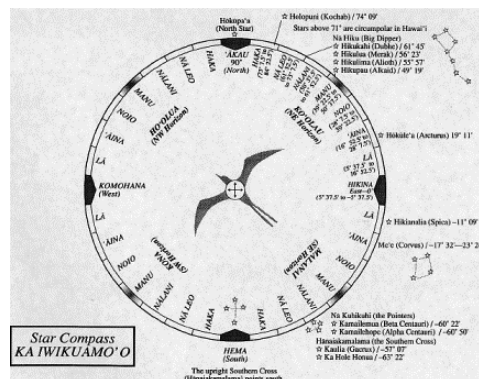
12:15 pm - Thursdays

A Brief History of the 'Ukulele in Hawai'i

12:00 pm and 1:30 pm - Saturdays
10:45 am and 1:30 pm - Sundays

Poor Pluto

12:45 pm – Fridays



11:45 am, 12:30 pm, 12:45 pm, and 1:45 pm - Saturdays
11:45 am, 12:30 pm, 12:45 pm, and 1:45 pm - Sundays

If you have any questions about the above performances, contact Justina Mattos at 969-9743 or email jmattos@imiloahawaii.org

January Skies 2010

Highlights from the Night Sky

Mars is at its best for 2010 this month. It reaches opposition on the Friday, the 29, and will be visible from sunset to sunrise. Look for it in the constellation of Cancer the Crab.

Mercury is visible near the end of the month at sunrise. Look for it on Tuesday, the 26, when it appears the highest above the horizon.

Venus is not visible this month.

Jupiter is in the southwest at sunset and is an early evening object. If possible, explore with binoculars to see the Galilean Moons.

Saturn rises around 11:00 pm and is visible until sunrise. Small telescopes easily reveal its wonderful rings.



January's Celestial Calendar

Saturday, Jan. 2	Earth at Perihelion
Sunday, Jan. 3	Hoku'ulapina'au (Mars) 7° north of the Moon
Monday, Jan. 4	Ukialiali'i (Mercury) in inferior conjunction
Wednesday, Jan. 6	Makulu (Saturn) 8° north of the Moon
Thursday, Jan. 7	Kaloakukahi (Last Quarter Moon) at 12:39 am
Monday, Jan. 11	Hokuloa (Venus) in superior conjunction
Wednesday, Jan. 13	Ukialiali'i (Mercury) 5° north of the Moon
Thursday, Jan. 14	Makulu (Saturn) appears stationary; Muku (New Moon) at 9:11 pm
Monday, Jan. 18	Ka'awela (Jupiter) 5° south of the Moon
Saturday, Jan. 23	'Olekukahi (First Quarter Moon) at 12:53 am
Wednesday, Jan. 27	Ukialiali'i (Mercury) at greatest western elongation; Hoku'ulapina'au (Mars) at closest approach to Earth
Friday, Jan. 29	Hoku (Full Moon) at 8:18 pm; Hoku'ulapina'au (Mars) at opposition
Saturday, Jan. 30	Hoku'ulapina'au (Mars) 7° north of the Moon

Keiki Programs and Opportunities

Science Rocks!

Bring your keiki to 'Imiloa's *Science Rocks!* educational, interactive after-school program from 2:30 pm to 5:15 pm. With exciting new topics, *Science Rocks!* is held every Wednesday that school is in session through May 19, 2010. This program is tailored for students in grades 4-6.

January 6: Rockets
January 13: Food Conductivity
January 20: Astronomy I
January 27: Astronomy II



Each session is limited to 20 students and enrollment is necessary, costing \$15 per session, with a "pay-as-you-go" policy. For more information, please call our School Programs Coordinator, Gail Loeffler, at 969-9729.

Keiki Kilohoku Korner - Saturday activities

The Keiki Kilohoku Korner is held every Saturday from 9:30 am - 11:00 am for the visitors who come to see *Legends of the Night Sky: Orion*, our 10:00 am keiki planetarium show. Educational activities will take place in 'Imiloa's atrium area. Storytelling, science demos, or experiments will be offered weekly.

January *Maunakea Skies*: "Celestial Highlights 2010"

Saturday, January 16, at 7:00 pm in the planetarium

The ever-popular *Maunakea Skies* is back again at 'Imiloa Astronomy Center. Shawn Laatsch, Planetarium Manager for 'Imiloa, will kick off the 2010 *Maunakea Skies* series on January 16, at 7:00 pm with the "Celestial Highlights of 2010."



"Celestial Highlights of 2010" will take audiences on a tour of things to see in the upcoming year exploring planetary alignments, solar and lunar eclipses, meteor showers, and much more. Some special topics include Mars at its best in February, Saturn's rings opening up for a spectacular view, the July total solar eclipse passing through Rapa Nui (Easter Island), and the total lunar eclipse in December.

Mr. Laatsch will share how to observe these celestial phenomena with your unaided eye and also discuss the use of binoculars and simple telescopes. In addition, he will look back at some of the major astronomical discoveries of 2009 made by the Maunakea Observatories - such as Gemini's first photo of an exoplanet, gas flows at the center of the Milky Way as seen by the JCMT, and numerous others.

The Sky Garden Restaurant will be open from 5:00 to 8:00 pm for dinner.

Maunakea Skies will be held the third Saturday of each month and will replace the *Directors' Lecture Series* held for the International Year of Astronomy in 2009, which was included as a sponsorship during that special time. **With the completion of the IYA2009, 'Imiloa's monthly talks will again require an admission fee. Admission is \$8.00 for non-members and \$5.00 for members.**

For more information on *Maunakea Skies*, please visit <http://www.imiloahawaii.org>. The *Maunakea Skies* Series begins at 7:00 pm and is on the third Saturday of every month. Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes in advance.

Questions? Please feel free to call Shawn Laatsch, 'Imiloa's Planetarium Manager at 969-9735 or our front desk at 969-9703.

In the Planetarium

Origins of Life

Origins of Life starts off with the Big Bang and, moving in chronological order, explores the prebiotic chemistry of the universe, the formation of the stars and solar systems, as well as the first signs of life on our planet. Furthermore, *Origins of Life* covers the great extinctions as well as our search for (primitive) life beyond Earth. This show is an inspirational journey through time and a celebration of life on Earth. The program will include a live tour of the night sky, featuring stars, constellations, and planets.

Origins of Life will be shown daily at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm, from Saturday, January 2, through Friday, January 8.

IBEX: Search for the Edge - NEW planetarium show



On Saturday, January 9, 'Imiloa Astronomy Center will welcome the newest addition to our planetarium: *IBEX: Search for the Edge*. Join scientists who are investigating the boundary between our Solar System and the rest of our galaxy. Designed for visitors with an appreciation for the challenges of space science and a desire to learn more about science research, *IBEX: Search for the Edge* follows the creation of NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer (IBEX).

Audiences will get an in-depth look at the mission and how IBEX is collecting high-speed atoms to create a map of our Solar System's boundary. Narrated by two inquisitive teenagers, audiences will hear from the scientists and engineers that developed the IBEX mission and created the spacecraft, and get the latest updates on the mission's discoveries.

IBEX: Search for the Edge will play every day, Tuesday through Sunday, at 1:00 and

3:00 pm, in the 'Imiloa planetarium. *IBEX* will be replacing *Origins of Life*.

Laser Music Shows

'Imiloa is excited to announce the arrival of our new Friday night music shows, held in the planetarium. With the recent arrival of laser technology from Audio Visual Imagineering, Inc., 'Imiloa will be presenting the first in a series of laser music show productions.

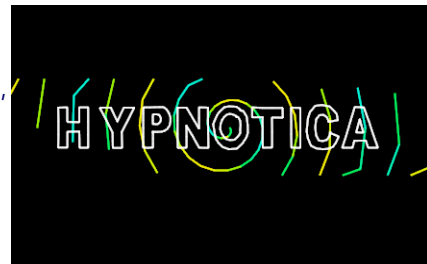
Laser Beatles - 7:30 pm through January 29

The Beatles, an English rock band, was formed in 1960. They quickly became one of the most commercially successful and critically acclaimed bands in the history of popular music; from rock'n'roll to the psychedelic, the Beatles' songs are enjoyed by all and are viable representatives of the 60's culture. This entertaining laser show includes the internationally-renowned hits: "Twist & Shout," "Help!," "A Hard Day's Night," and more! The program is approximately 36 minutes long.



Hypnotica - 9:00 pm through January 29

This exciting music laser show is sure to rock your world! With the playlist including hits by Fat Boy Slim, the Chemical Brothers, and the Crystal Method, it will be hard not to get up and dance. *Hypnotica* will be showing on the following Friday nights, at 9:00 pm: January 8, 15, 22, and 29.



Rock show admission rates are as follows:

- Non-member rate.....\$10
- Individual Member (\$50).....\$8
- Dual Member (\$60).....\$8
- Family Member (\$85).....\$8
- Patron Member (\$125).....\$6
- Silver Member (\$250).....FREE
- Gold Member (\$500).....FREE

To make reservations, or to upgrade your membership to take advantage of deeper discounts, please call 969-9703 or visit our front desk.

Legends of the Night Sky: Orion

Legends of the Night Sky: Orion has returned to 'Imiloa as the Saturday morning keiki planetarium show. This colorful and entertaining program is the world's first traditionally-animated fulldome movie. The show takes an imaginative look at the stories and legends about Orion, the great hunter of the winter sky. It's an ideal show for family audiences and younger viewers.

Legends of the Night Sky: Orion is presented every Saturday at 10:00 am and is supplemented with the Keiki Kilohoku Korner, held from 9:30 am to 11:00 am.

'Imiloa Astronomy Center

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

To ensure delivery of 'Imiloa Astronomy Center e-mails to your inbox (not bulk or junk folders), please add membership@imiloahawaii.org to your address book.

If you or someone you know isn't receiving Kilolani on a regular basis, please call us at (808) 969-9732 or email us at membership@imiloahawaii.org so we can investigate for you!

'Imiloa Astronomy Center

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Front Desk Superstars

(808) 969-9703

Center Hours:

Tues-Sun 9 am to 4 pm

Closed Mondays

Front desk: (808) 969-9703

Sky Garden Restaurant:

Open Tues-Sun 9 am to 4 pm

Dinner: Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun 5 pm to 8 pm

(808) 969-9753

Mahalo nui loa for your support of 'Imiloa!