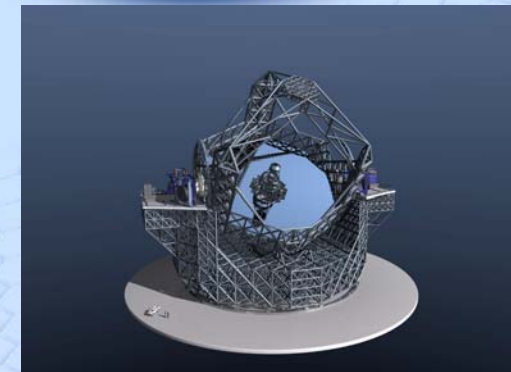
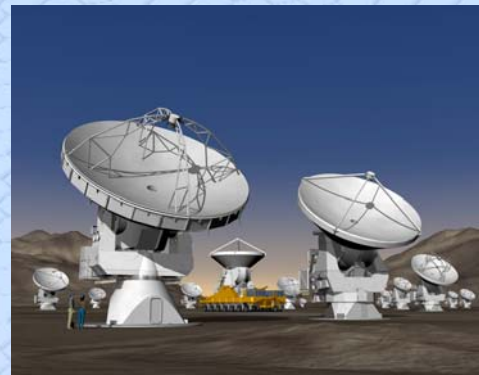
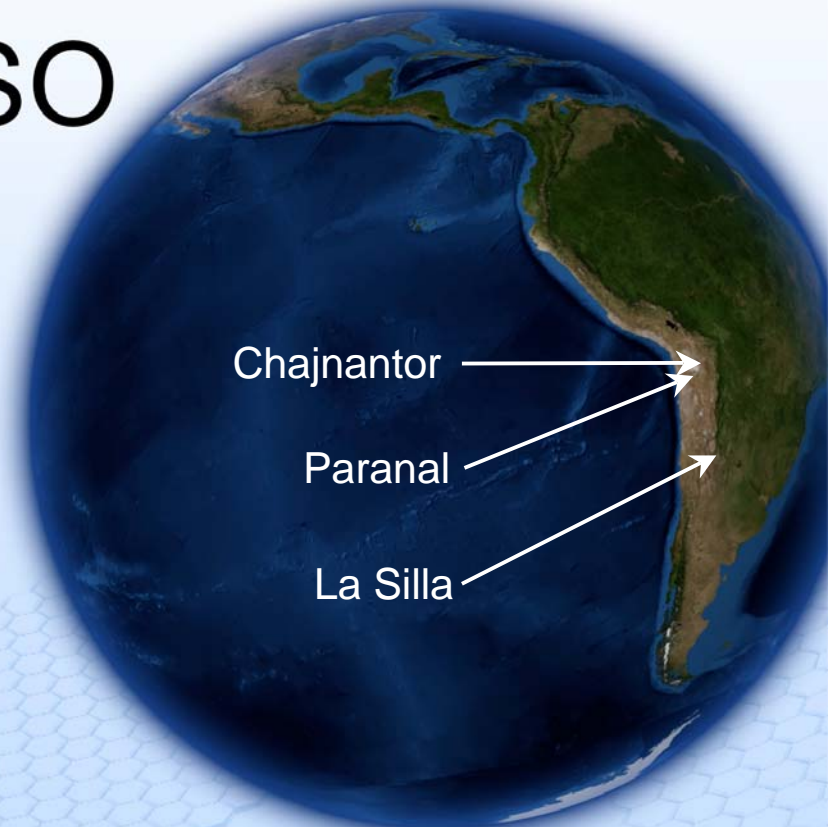


ESO Education and Public Outreach for IYA2009

Douglas Pierce-Price
Education Officer and ESO SPoC
dpiercep@eso.org
<http://www.eso.org/>

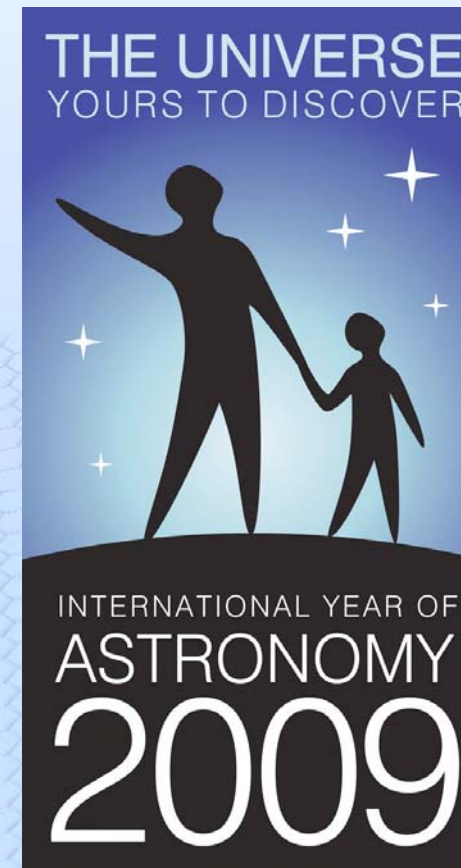
An overview of ESO

- European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere
- Member states: Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom
- HQ in Garching, near Munich
- Three observatory sites in Chile



A range of IYA2009 activities

- Scope
 - Local (Garching, Munich)
 - National (Chile, support within ESO member states)
 - Global (for example using the web, with a dedicated website)
- Level
 - General public
 - Interested public, amateur astronomers
 - School students



Global Cornerstone Projects

- ESO will participate in, among others:
 - 24 Hours of Astronomy, large observatories round-the-globe event
 - The Universe from the Earth, exhibit of astronomical images
 - Universe Awareness (UNAWA)



Local events (Garching/Munich)

- Local image exhibitions
(link with The Universe
from the Earth)
- Astronomy Café
 - In the style of Café
Scientifique, ESO
astronomers will engage
with the public in informal
settings, outside of the
“lecture theatre”
 - Pilot scheme in
Garching, aim to expand
to Munich



Events in Chile

- Organised and coordinated by ESO Public Affairs Dept in Chile - contact Gonzalo Argandoña (gargando@eso.org)
- “Science Cafés” series (development of ongoing project)
- Travelling exhibit: observations of the sky by different cultures
- A series of national videolinks to Paranal
- Virtual tour of Paranal with simulated night observations
- Working with EXPLORA to make astronomy/the sky a theme for their activities
- “400 Years, 400 Schools” - a network of school astronomy clubs

ALMA planetarium show

- As described by Henri Boffin and Agnes Acker on Monday
- Produced in collaboration with the Association of French Language Planetariums (APLF) and the German Planetarium of Augsburg

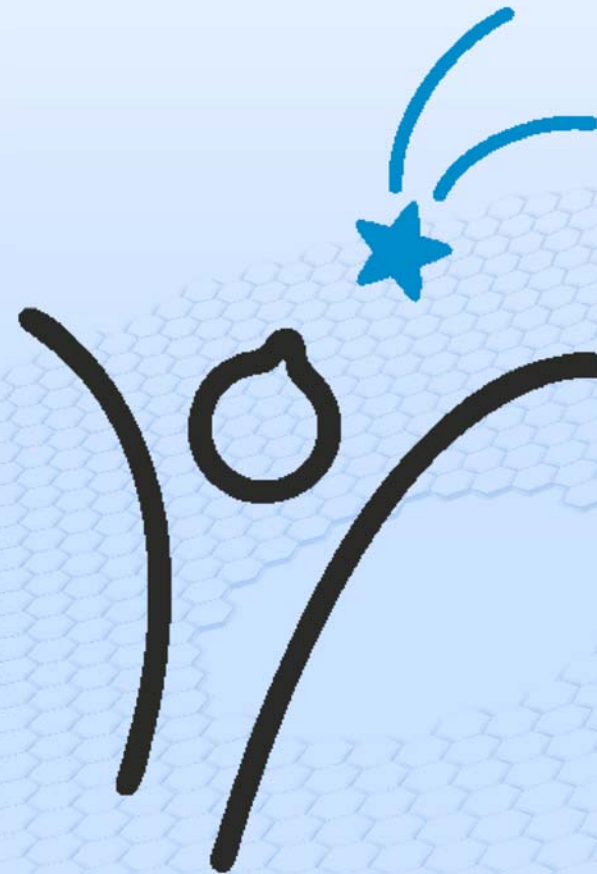


Web-based activities

- Astronomy Web Quest
 - An opportunity for the general public to learn about astronomy and ESO
 - An interactive website where people can answer quizzes and solve puzzles
 - prizes available
- Life of an astronomer
 - Blogs, podcasts, from selected ESO astronomers
 - An opportunity to follow individuals for all or part of the year, to see what the life of an astronomer is like
 - Link with “Cosmic Diary” Global Cornerstone Project

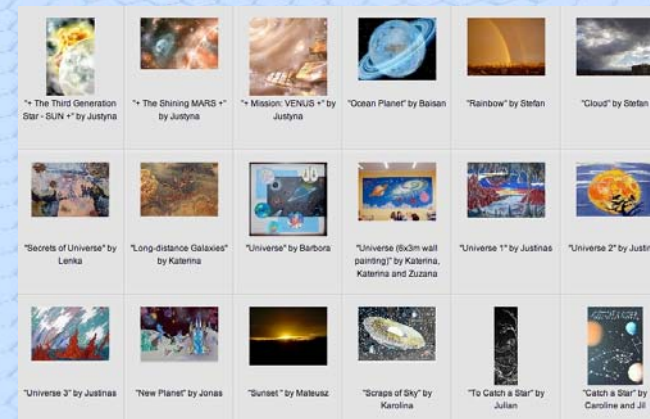
Catch a Star Competition

- International ESO/EAAE competition for school students
- Prizes include a trip to the ESO Very Large Telescope on Paranal
- Divided into *Researchers*, *Adventurers*, and *Artists* categories, to involve students at all levels
- www.eso.org/catchastar/



Catch a Star Competition

- Up to three students plus a teacher write about a topic in astronomy, and discuss how large telescopes such as those of ESO can be used to study it
- Winners chosen by an international jury and by lottery
- Artwork competition with an astronomical theme, with entries shown in a gallery on the web
- Winners chosen with public web-based vote



Catch a Star *Artists* winners...



Lazar



Kristina



Rosanna



Agnieszka



ESO
European Organisation
for Astronomical
Research in the
Southern Hemisphere

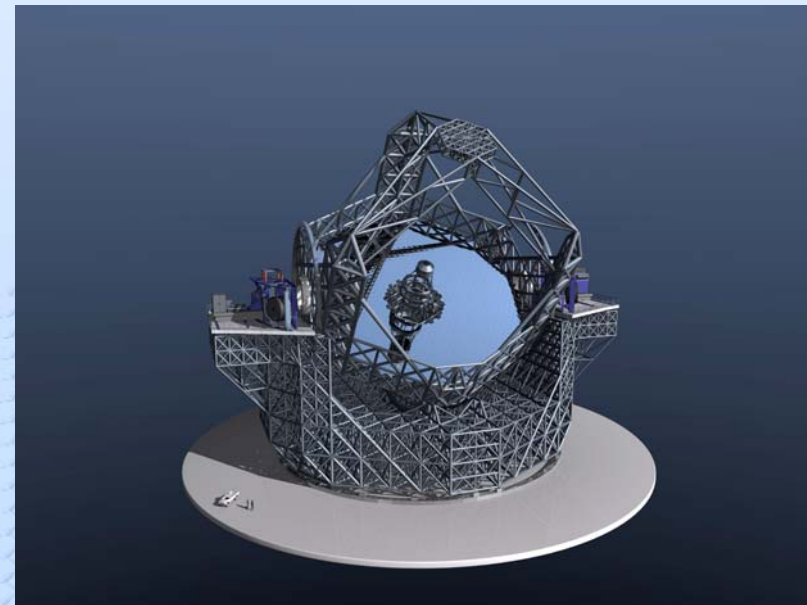
Catch a Star 2008

- Catch a Star 2008 is running now
- Please publicise it!
- Flyers available here
- www.eso.org/catchastar/
- We will run a similar Catch a Star 2009 competition linked to IYA2009

A flyer for the 'Catch a Star 2008' competition. The top half features a silhouette of a person jumping against a sunset sky with a bright star. The title 'Catch a Star 2008' is at the top. Below the image is a stylized logo of a person jumping. The text describes the competition, its sponsors (ESO and EAAE), and the prizes, including a trip to the ESO Very Large Telescope on Cerro Paranal in Chile. It lists three categories: Researchers, Adventurers, and Artists, each with a brief description. The competition opens in September 2007 and has a submission deadline of 29 February 2008. At the bottom, it provides the website URL: http://www.eso.org/catchastar/. Logos for EAAE and ESO are at the bottom left.

Future Astronomers of Europe

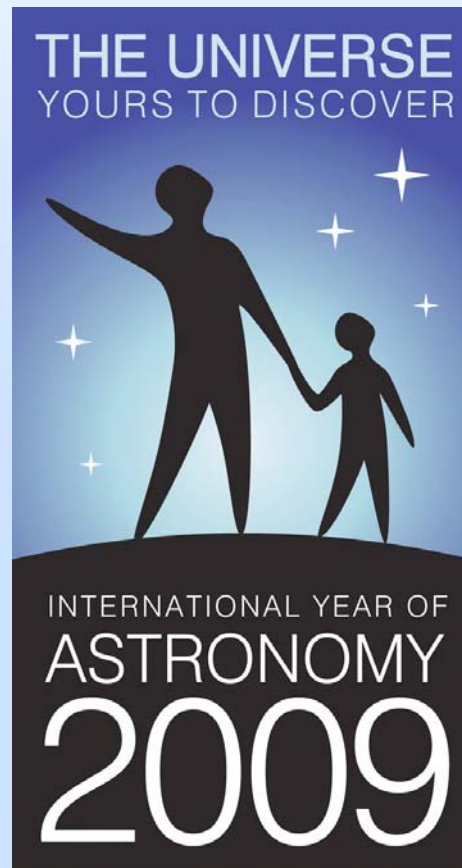
- In 2009, design phase of E-ELT will be ending, leading to construction phase
- The school students of 2009 may be the among the first users of E-ELT
- A competition to introduce keen students to professional astronomy
- Inspired by previous “Future Astronomers” competition in 1993 in which students wrote essays about “An Observing Night at the VLT”



Future Astronomers of Europe

1. An essay competition for school students: “An observing night with the E-ELT”.
 2. Winners receive a trip to Garching for a crash course in astronomy and observing from ESO astronomers. Work in teams to develop observing proposals.
 3. Winners travel to Chile to visit ESO observatories and make their observations.
- Publicise the competition and the winners’ adventure on the web, and through other media

Summary



- ESO will take part in “cornerstone” activities, as well as its own IYA2009 projects
- A range of activities, from local to global
- A range of “levels of interest”
- Member states, and others, do get in touch!
- ESO SPoC:
Douglas Pierce-Price
dpiercep@eso.org