

ASTRONAUTS, ASTEROIDS AND EXPERTS IN LUXEMBOURG AND AROUND THE GLOBE – 30 JUNE

LUXEMBOURG, 21 June 2021 /PRNewswire/ – The Asteroid Foundation’s annual Asteroid Day LIVE programme returns in person Thursday 30 June 2022 at 11:00 CET. After two years as a digital event, astronauts, experts and science communicators from across the world will again converge on Luxembourg to discuss the importance of asteroid research, missions, and advances in space-based technologies. The four-hour-long programme will vividly bring the solar system’s smallest worlds to life for audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Asteroid Day LIVE 2022 will be built around seven panel discussions that will tell the full story of asteroids; from the formation of the Solar System, 4.6 billion years ago, to the scientific work taking place today, and our future prospects as we begin to imagine ways to utilise the resources asteroids contain.

The panels will explore: the origin of the Solar System, how we discover and track Near-Earth asteroids, how we characterise an asteroid according to its composition, orbit and other physical properties, how we will defend Earth if and when we spot a threatening asteroid, what resources we may find on asteroids and elsewhere in the Solar System, how we can utilise space in a sustainable way, and what future missions and technology we have to look forward to.

To tell these remarkable stories, Asteroid Day LIVE will bring together a “Who’s Who?” of people involved in asteroid research. Among those transmitting live from Luxembourg’s Broadcasting Centre Europe will be:

- [Abigail Calzada Diaz](#), Research & Technology Associate, ESRIC
- [Alan Fitzsimmons](#), Astronomer, Queens University Belfast, UK
- [Bob Lamboray](#), LSA / ESRIC
- [Christer Fuglesang](#), Astronaut, KTH Royal Institute of Tech.
- [Christian Koeberl](#), University of Vienna
- [Danica Remy](#), Co-Founder, Asteroid Day
- [Dumitru-Dorin Prunariu](#), Astronaut, Vice Chair, Asteroid Foundation
- [Ed Lu](#), Astronaut, Executive Director, Asteroid Institute
- [Emile Espen](#), Head of POST Philately Luxembourg
- [Gianluca Masi](#), Astronomer, Virtual Telescope Project
- [Hannah Goldberg](#), Hera Payload Systems Engineer, ESA
- [Heli Greus](#), ESA PA, Safety Manager, HERA Mission
- [Hoai Thu Nguyen Doan](#), Chamber of Commerce of Luxembourg
- [Ian Carnelli](#), ESA, Hera project manager
- [Jean-François Clervoy](#), Astronaut and Novespace Chair
- [Julian Cyrus](#), CEO, Lunar Outpost EU
- [Julien-Alexander Lamamy](#), Managing Director, ispace Europe
- [Lisa Burke](#), Presenter, moderator, and science writer
- [Marco Micheli](#), ESA NEO Coordination Centre
- [Mario Juric](#), DiRAC Institute, University of Washington
- [Michel Tognini](#), Astronaut and test pilot
- [Naomi Murdoch](#), Researcher, ISAE-SUPAERO, Toulouse

- [Patrick Michel](#), Research Director, CNRS, Côte d'Azur Obs.
- [Pete Worden](#), Executive Director, Breakthrough Starshot
- [Phil Plait](#), Astronomer, blogger, and author
- [Reza Kianpour](#), Artist and Designer
- [Ron Garan](#), Astronaut and author
- [Sabina Raducan](#), Astronomer, University of Bern
- [Sabinije von Gaffke](#), Moderator & Journalist
- [Sara Russell](#), Researcher, Natural History Museum, London
- [Stuart Clark](#), Editorial Director, Asteroid Day
- [Xavier Thillen](#), Broadcasting Center Europe

The panels this year will be moderated by Gianluca Masi, Virtual Telescope Project; Phil Plait, Astronomer, blogger, and author, and Stuart Clark, Asteroid Day's Editorial Director, and Patrick Michel, Director of Research at CNRS, Côte d'Azur Observatory. Special pre-recorded interviews will take us into the heart of missions such as NASA's OSIRIS-REx and DART.

In addition to the live broadcast, the Foundation will be hosting a number of educational events in Luxembourg throughout the last week of June. **Free events open to the public include:**

28 June 18:30 CET - **Millions on Asteroids - Why spend money on asteroid research and missions?** with speakers Danica Remy, Phil Plait and Patrick Michel at Silversquare Liberté in Luxembourg. [Event details.](#)

29 June 18:00 CET - **Luxembourg Space Cafe** at Arendt House with Astronaut Speakers Ron Garan and Michel Tognini. [Event Details.](#)

2 July 15:00 CET - **Space Travellers** at Musee national d'histoire naturelle featuring Astronauts Christer Fuglesang and Dorin Prunariu. [Event Details](#)

Invitational Educational Events co-funded by the European Union include:

28 June 14:00 CET - **Planetary Scientist Patrick Michel at Lycée Vauban.**

29 June 1:00 CET - **Astronaut Ron Garan at Lycée de garçons Luxembourg.**

29 June 15:00 CET - **Asteroid Day Technical Briefing** featuring Patrick Michel, Sabina Raducan and Mario Juric sharing the latest asteroid research, joined by NASA astronauts Ed Lu, Ron Garan, ESA astronaut Michel Tognini and cosmonaut Dorin Prunariu at the modern and elegant Arendt House in Luxembourg. [Event details.](#) Open to the public

1 July 17:30 CET - **Astronauts Inspiring the New Generation** with Astronaut Speakers Ron Garan and Christer Fuglesang at Tramsschapp. [Event Details.](#)

And at the heart of it all is the original purpose of Asteroid Day: to raise awareness that one day we will need to deflect an asteroid away from our planet. Through hard work and dedication, the global asteroid community is working to make this possible – and that puts the asteroid hazard in a class of its own, because uniquely among the natural disasters, asteroid impacts are preventable.

“Asteroid Day reminds the world of just how important these celestial objects are. They hold the keys to understanding the formation of the Solar System, provide stepping stones we will utilise to explore our solar system, and occasionally they hit our planet. We are in an extraordinary time of asteroid research and missions, and every year, our asteroid experts bring new insights and revelations.” says

Dr Dorin Prunariu, Vice Chair of the Asteroid Foundation and a former chairman of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN COPUOS).

Asteroid Day's Luxembourg-based partners Broadcasting Center Europe (BCE) and SES, the leader in global content connectivity solutions, will make Asteroid Day TV available for millions to tune in via SES satellite. For more details on Asteroid Day LIVE, visit <https://asteroidday.org/asteroid-day-live>

Last week Asteroid Foundation highlighted a collection of independently organised Asteroid Day programs which are being hosted around the world [in this press release](#). Additionally, POST Philately Luxembourg issued the first of a series of Asteroid Day Stamps, which are available for [purchase here](#).

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About Asteroid Day:

Asteroid Day is held on 30 June each year to mark the date of Earth's largest asteroid impact in recorded history, the Tunguska, Siberia event. Asteroid Day was co-founded by astrophysicist and famed musician [Dr Brian May](#) of the rock group Queen; Apollo 9 Astronaut [Rusty Schweickart](#); Filmmaker [Grig Richters](#); and B612 Foundation President [Danica Remy](#), to educate the public about the importance of asteroids in our history, and the role they play in the solar system. In 2016, prompted by the leadership of the Association of Space Explorers (ASE), the United Nations declared Asteroid Day to be a global day of education to raise awareness and promote knowledge in the general public about asteroids. [Thousands](#) of independently organised events have taken place around the globe, encompassing 125 of the world's 195 countries.

Asteroid Day is been made possible thanks to partnerships with the [Association of Space Explorers \(ASE\)](#), [Broadcasting Center Europe \(BCE\)](#), [B612 Foundation](#), the [European Space Agency \(ESA\)](#), [OHB System](#), [Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce](#), [Luxembourg Space Agency \(LSA\)](#), [The Planetary Society](#), [SES](#), [the Interdisciplinary Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust \(SnT\) at the University of Luxembourg](#), and [Twitch](#). Asteroid Day, Asteroid Day LIVE, Asteroid Day TV and SpaceConnectsUs are all programmes of [Asteroid Foundation](#), a Luxembourg based non-profit.

Join in the Asteroid Day conversation on Social Media!

- Hashtags: #AsteroidDay #AsteroidDayLIVE #AsteroidDayTV #Luxembourg
- Website: [AsteroidDay.org](#)
- Twitter: [@asteroidday](#)
- Twitch: <https://www.twitch.tv/asteroidday>
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/AsteroidDay
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/asteroidday
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/asteroidday>

A **Media Kit** including quotes, photos, video and B-Roll video is available in the [Asteroid Day Newsroom](#). Photos from previous Asteroid Day events in Luxembourg are available on [Flickr](#).

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Asteroid Day TV - SES Broadcast Connection Details:

Europe/Middle East

Service Name: Asteroid Day 2022 HD
 Service ID: 5711
 Transponder: 1.068
 Satellite: Astra 1M
 Orbital Pos: 19.2 East
 Downlink Frequency: 11778.00 MHz
 Polarization: Vertical
 Modulation: DVB-S2 QPSK
 FEC: 9/10
 SR: 29.5 MSym/s

About Arendt:

Arendt & Medernach is the leading independent business law firm in Luxembourg and has representative offices in Hong Kong, London, New York and Paris. Its international team of 380 legal professionals represents clients in all areas of Luxembourg business law. Arendt & Medernach is dedicated to providing top-quality legal services, accompanied by a flexible approach and responsiveness in client relationships. The firm acts on behalf of a large number of Luxembourg banks, financial sector institutions and investment funds, and is continuously involved in cross-border transactions.

About Asteroid Foundation:

Asteroid Foundation was formed in 2017 with a mission to promote worldwide awareness of asteroid opportunities and challenges, and the emerging space economy. The Asteroid Foundation undertakes programmes and activities to support scientists, engineers and students around the world providing free educational tools, newsletters, original articles and resources year round. Annually, the Foundation organizes events surrounding International Asteroid Day, a United Nations recognized day of education and awareness observed on 30 June. Visit their [Flickr](#) account to see pictures from previous events. <https://asteroidfoundation.org/>

About Association of Space Explorers

Founded in 1985, the Association of Space Explorers (ASE) is an international nonprofit 501c3 professional and educational organization of more than 400 flown astronauts and cosmonauts from 38 nations. ASE's Committee on Near Earth Objects (NEO), chaired by astronaut Tom Jones, works to promote global awareness of the asteroid impact threat. ASE delivers subject matter expertise and the

astronaut perspective on key topics related to NEOs, including developments in planetary defense, advancements in NEO discovery and characterization, and impactor mitigation campaign design. ASE NEO Committee members also support the bi-annual IAA Planetary Defence Conference and the annual Asteroid Day event in Luxembourg.

<https://www.space-explorers.org/>

About Asteroid Institute and B612 Foundation

Asteroid Institute brings together scientists, researchers and engineers to develop tools and technologies to understand, map and navigate our Solar System. A program of B612 Foundation, the Asteroid Institute leverages advances in computer science, instrumentation and astronomy to find and track asteroids. Since 2002, the Foundation has supported research and technologies to enable the economic development of space and enhance our understanding of the evolution of our Solar System in addition to supporting educational programs, including Asteroid Day. [Founding Circle](#) and [Asteroid Circle](#) members and individual donors from 46 countries provide financial support for the work. For more information, visit B612foundation.org.

About Broadcasting Center Europe (BCE)

Broadcasting Center Europe (BCE) is a European leader in media services, system integration and software development in the areas of television, online video, streaming, radio, production and postproduction, telecommunication and IT. With its extensive experience on the media market, our team provides high-quality services and will always find the solution that matches your project and budget. With more than 200 highly qualified and motivated people, BCE serves about 400 clients in various sectors, such as TV channels, radio stations, film distributors, producers, advertising companies, sports federations, fashion, events, institutions and telecommunications operators.

www.bce.lu

About the Interdisciplinary Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust (SnT)

The Interdisciplinary Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust (SnT) at the University of Luxembourg conducts internationally competitive research in information and communication technology. In addition to long-term, high-risk research, SnT engages in demand-driven collaborative projects with industry and the public sector through its Partnership Programme. The resulting concepts present a genuine, long-lasting competitive advantage for companies in Luxembourg and beyond. www.snt.uni.lu

About Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce

The main role of the Chamber of Commerce is to protect and promote the interests of businesses and the economy of Luxembourg. To enable it to fulfil this mandate, it has been granted the status of a public establishment, which comes with some significant prerogatives. Since membership of professional businesses is mandatory in Luxembourg, the Chamber of Commerce has high rates of affiliation, with 90,000 member companies, corresponding to 75% of the country's total salaried employment and 80% of Luxembourg's GDP, making it the biggest employers' group in the country. It represents all businesses in Luxembourg except those in the artisanal and agricultural sectors. The Chamber of Commerce implements projects and infrastructures for sustainable and prosperous economic development. <https://www.cc.lu>

About Luxembourg Space Agency

Luxembourg Space Agency (LSA) develops the space sector in Luxembourg by fostering new and existing companies, developing human resources, facilitating access to funding and supporting academic research. The agency implements the national space economic development strategy, manages national space research and development programs and leads the SpaceResources.lu initiative. Furthermore, the LSA represents Luxembourg within the European Space Agency and space-related programs of the European Union and the United Nations. <https://space-agency.public.lu/>

About OHB System

OHB System is a European multinational technology corporation, headquartered in Bremen, Germany. They are and have been one of the leading companies in Europe's space sector for the past 35 years, particularly in their core business comprising low-orbiting and geostationary satellites. They have been developing and executing some of the key projects of our times such as the Galileo navigation satellites, the SARah reconnaissance system, the MTG meteorological satellites, the EnMAP environment satellite, the TET-1 technology testing vehicle and the Hispasat H36W-1, ELECTRA and EDRS-C telecommunications satellites. <https://www.ohb-system.de/>

About The Planetary Society

The Planetary Society is the world's largest independent space-interest organization. Led by CEO Bill Nye and powered by space enthusiasts around the globe, the Society works to advance planetary exploration, the search for life, and planetary defense through education, innovation, advocacy, and global collaboration. Learn more at www.planetary.org.

About SES

Headquartered in Luxembourg, SES is the world's leading global content connectivity solutions provider via satellite, delivering services to video and data customers worldwide, including broadcasters, content and internet service providers, mobile and fixed network operators, governments and institutions. With around 70 satellites in two different orbits, SES combines a vast, intelligent network of satellites and ground infrastructure with industry-leading expertise to manage and deliver high-performance video and data solutions virtually everywhere on the planet. www.ses.com/

About Sofitel

Opened in 2008, Sofitel Luxembourg Le Grand Ducal is a striking design hotel gazing over the picturesque Alzette and Pétrusse valleys and Luxembourg UNESCO Old Town. Created by the architect Philippe Capron, the hotel is a daring combination between cosy design, modernity and French elegance. Its location in the heart of the city centre is exceptional: within walking distance of the historic centre of Luxembourg, it is the ideal venue for professional or leisure stays. It is also near the main train station and only a few minutes away from Luxembourg international airport.

www.sofitel.com

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