Coronavirus (Covid-19)

LIVING IN ISOLATION HERE ON EARTH AND AMONG THE STARS



LUXEMBOURG, BERLIN, PARIS -- Asteroid Day, the official United Nations' day of global awareness and education about asteroids and the European Space Agency (ESA) connect Europe and the world with astronauts and celebrities with a message of hope and inspiration.

WHEN? Thursday, 26 March; from 16:00 - 21:00 CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME **WHERE?** <u>SpaceConnects.Us</u> *We can also provide you with a broadcast or web signal of the feed.*

The world is at a historic standstill. Borders are closing and millions of people are quarantined due to the spread of COVID-19.

While we fight this battle and defeat the invisible enemy, solidarity and mutual encouragement are more important for us than ever before. We want to send out a message of unity and hope, join forces and give us, especially our children and youngsters, confidence in our intelligence, our science, ourselves and the place we live in.

When we asked space agencies and astronauts whether they could help us to learn how to go far and beyond, how to cope with staggering challenges and find mental and physical practices to live in isolation, the answer was overwhelmingly positive. We are launching a virtual global town hall to exchange with them and all those who are fascinated by space and ready to learn from it.

The **#SPACECONNECTSUS** *PROGRAM: Remote sessions with astronauts and guests from all over the world who speak to children, young adults and their families and friends about their experience and techniques in confined places and what else space may provide to help, their trust in science and the sources of their inspiration. The event will be 100% free and digital.*

The programme runs in five languages: Dutch, German, Italian, French and English, running one specific language with different hosts and different participants straight after the other.

26 MARCH 2020 - ALL TIMES IN EUROPEAN CET TIME (PARIS, BERLIN):

Dutch:16:00 - 16:30German:17:00 - 17:30Italian:18:00 - 18:30French:19:00 - 19:30English:20:00 - 21:00

List of confirmed guests below, more in process.

<u>Hosts</u>

- <u>Brian Cox</u> (English)
- <u>Ranga Yogeshwar</u> (German)
- <u>Bruce Benamran</u> (French)

Planned participating astronauts

- <u>Tim Peake</u> (ESA)
- <u>Thomas Pesquet</u> (ESA)
- <u>Jean-François Clervoy</u> (ESA)
- <u>Alexander Gerst</u> (ESA)
- <u>Samantha Cristoforetti</u> (ESA)
- <u>Tom Jones</u> (NASA)
- <u>Dorin Prunariu</u> (Romanian)
- <u>Thomas Reiter</u> (ESA)
- <u>Nicole Stott</u> (NASA)
- <u>Matthias Maurer</u> (ESA)
- <u>Frank De Winne</u> (ESA)
- <u>Andre Kuipers</u> (ESA)

Planned participating personalities

- <u>Mayim Bialik</u> (Big Bang Theory)
- <u>Murad Osmann</u> (Photographer)
- <u>Alison Pill</u> (StarTrek Picard)
- <u>Paulina Chávez (</u> Actor)
- <u>Angélique Kidjo</u> (singer)
- <u>Olivia Newton-John</u> (singer)
- <u>Brian Blessed</u> (actor)
- <u>Jan Wörner</u> (ESA Director General)
- <u>Gianluca Masi</u> (Virtualtelescope.eu)

Join in the conversation on Social Media!

- Website: SpaceConnects.Us
- Twitter: @asteroidday #SpaceConnectsUs;
- Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/AsteroidDay</u>
- YouTube: <u>www.youtube.com/user/asteroidday</u>

Media Contacts:

Markus Payer: T. +352 621 968 002, E. <u>Markus Payer@asteroidday.org</u> Grigorij Richters: T. +49 1732631512 E. <u>Grig@AsteroidDay.org</u> Ninja Menning, T. +31715656409 E. <u>media@esa.int</u>

PARTNERS:

This program is non-commercial and is made possible by the following partners who contribute in-kind services: <u>Asteroid Day</u>, <u>ESA</u>, <u>Association of Space Explorers</u>, <u>SES</u>, <u>BCE</u>, <u>Luxembourg Space Agency</u>, <u>Films United</u>, <u>Wave-L</u>, <u>PlanB</u>, and <u>Communications Smart</u>.



Asteroid Day

https://asteroidday.org/about/

Asteroid Day is a UN-sanctioned global awareness campaign participated annually on 30 June with the mission is to inspire, engage and educate the public about asteroids opportunities and risks.

European Space Agency

https://www.esa.int/

The European Space Agency (ESA) is Europe's gateway to space. Its mission is to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe and the world.

Association of Space Explorers

https://aose26.wildapricot.org/

ASE applies the unique perspective of our astronaut / cosmonaut members to promote the global benefits of space science, exploration and international cooperation; to educate and inspire future generations; and to foster better stewardship of our home planet.

Broadcasting Center Europe

https://asteroidday.org/partner/broadcasting-center-europe-bce/

Broadcasting Center Europe (BCE) is a European leader in technical services in the areas of television, radio, production and postproduction, telecommunication and IT.

SES

https://www.ses.com/

SES delivers global content connectivity solutions. They leverage a vast and intelligent network that spans satellite and ground infrastructure to create, deliver and manage video and data solutions that connect more people in more places with content that enriches their personal stories.

Films United

https://filmsunited.co/

Films United is a network of filmmakers and digital media specialists with access to some of the world's most beloved personalities and major brands.

WaveL

https://wave-l.com/about

WaveL is a PR & Communications expert specialised in building the strategic pillars of communication, setting the frameworks and developing the narratives, themes and messages that support companies and institutions in achieving their objectives.

Plan B Communication

http://www.planbcom.de/

Plan B communication supports companies, their founders and their leaders in all communication matters.

Luxembourg Space Agency

https://space-agency.public.lu/en.html

The Luxembourg Space Agency promotes the commercial space sector in Luxembourg by supporting the space industry, developing its human resources, giving access to financial solution and by fostering the academic learning and research.

Communications Smart

http://www.communications-smart.com/

Communications Smart can organise any relations with the press, the digital media, the radio and television in french speaking countries.