



Proclamation

Astronomy is an important discipline for humankind. It investigates the origin of the universe, provides insight to the mysteries of our galaxy and explains many facets of life on Earth.

Hawai'i plays an important role in this field, as the summit of Mauna Kea on the island of Hawai'i hosts the world's largest astronomical observatory, with telescopes operated by 11 nations.

Each year, astronomy clubs, observatories, universities, planetariums, laboratories, museums, libraries and nature centers across the country observe *National Astronomy Day* in order to "Bring Astronomy to the People" and expose the public to this field. Locally, the AstroDay Institute has sponsored *AstroDay* as Hawaii's celebration of *National Astronomy Day* since 2002. This event has earned national recognition each year, and the inaugural observance of *AstroDay* was honored with the National Astronomy Day of the Year Award.

This year, *AstroDay 2K7* will be observed on April 21 at Prince Kuhio Plaza in Hilo in order to introduce residents and visitors to the astronomical wonders of Hawai'i and showcase our state's many accomplishments in the field, as well as celebrate the Hawaiian cultural significance of Mauna Kea.

The event will include displays of amateur telescopes, StarLab Planetarium shows, student science projects, robotics demonstrations and competitions featuring Hawai'i island schools, astronomical vendors and publishers, a "Kid's Corner," world-renowned speakers, free prizes, and exhibits by all the observatories on Mauna Kea. *AstroDay 2K7* will continue after sunset with stargazing at the Visitor Information Station on Mauna Kea.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **April 21, 2007**, as

ASTRODAY 2K7

in Hawai'i, and encourage all of our citizens to explore the wonders of our universe.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this seventeenth day of April 2007.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i