



## Astronomical Society of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

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Faculty of Applied Sciences

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## Invitation to Participate in the “National Star Party 2026”

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Astronomical Society of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the Arthur C Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT), is pleased to organize the National Star Party 2026, which will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2026 at the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.

This event is organized with the objective of encouraging interest in astronomy, astrophysics, and space science among school students, university students, and the general public through practical and educational activities. The program includes:

- **Age 6 – 11**

- **Drawing Competition**

An open drawing competition will be conducted for school students aged 6–11 years. Eligible students are invited to participate by submitting a scanned digital copy of their artwork through the designated submission method. The competition theme and submission guidelines will be provided after registration. All participants will be awarded certificates of participation.

The submitted artworks will be evaluated by a panel, and winners will be awarded certificates. Selected winners will qualify for a National Level Drawing Competition. Outstanding artworks from the national competition will be chosen to represent Sri Lanka at the International Drawing Competition organized by the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF).

#### Artwork Requirements:

- The artwork must be the original creation of the student.
- Artwork shall be completed on a flat sheet of paper.
- The paper size must be no smaller than A3 (297 × 420 mm) and no larger than A2 (420 × 594 mm).
- Only traditional art materials, including pencils, crayons, watercolours, and oil paints, may be used.
- Artwork produced using digital art tools or software will not be accepted.

Please use the following link for registration:

<https://forms.gle/JoVptZGmEXnR69Rs9>

- **Age 12 & above**

- **Solar Observation (12.30 p.m. onwards)**

Participants will be able to observe the Sun safely through solar telescopes under the guidance of astronomy instructors. This session will help students learn about sunspots, solar activity, and basic solar science.

- **Night Deep Sky Observation**

This session will provide participants with the opportunity to observe the Moon, planets, stars, galaxies, and other deep sky objects using telescopes during the night time. Basic knowledge about constellations and the night sky will also be introduced.

- **Water Rocket Competition**

A water rocket competition will be conducted on the event day for participating students. Prior to the competition, an online webinar on water rocket designing and launching techniques will be conducted by senior advisors from the Arthur C Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT). Winners of the competition will be selected to participate in a national-level water rocket competition.

- **Astronomy related Models, Apps, and Project Presentations**

School and university students are invited to present astronomy related innovative projects, mobile or computer applications, research presentations, and developed models. Participants should demonstrate their creations and explain the scientific concepts, functions, and applications of their projects to the judges and audience. Outstanding presentations and innovations will be recognized and awarded.

Please use the following link for registration:

<https://forms.gle/p6e9KuYPS7VdxRid8>

Participants representing schools and attending as part of a group must be accompanied by a teacher whose details were provided in the registration form. Individual participants aged 12–17 years are required to attend the event accompanied by a parent or guardian whose details were also provided during registration.

Participants will also receive valuable certificates, useful handouts, changing facilities and complimentary refreshments. Please note that transportation facilities will not be provided.

The registration fee is Rs. 500/- per student. Details regarding the payment procedure will be provided to participants upon completion of the first-round registration. The registration form should include an active WhatsApp number and email address for sharing future updates and important information.

We believe this opportunity will enhance scientific knowledge and encourage interest in astronomy and space exploration among participants. We would highly appreciate your support and participation. For further information please contact us.

- Dr. L.M.M. De Silva (077 0514262) - [malith@appsc.sab.ac.lk](mailto:malith@appsc.sab.ac.lk)
- Mr. P.R.S. Tissera (075 3746840) - [prstissera@appsc.sab.ac.lk](mailto:prstissera@appsc.sab.ac.lk)
- G.P.T.Nethmini (078 7731377) - [tharushikagpnethmini@gmail.com](mailto:tharushikagpnethmini@gmail.com)

**In case of unfavorable weather conditions, the program may be postponed to a later date. Participants will be informed of the revised date accordingly.**

Sincerely,



G.P.T. Nethmini  
Secretary  
ASSUSL