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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**20<sup>th</sup> annual Astronaut Lacy Veach Day of Discovery, "The Stars are Calling Us," to be held virtually on Oct. 30, 2021**  
***Governor David Ige proclaims date as the Astronaut Veach Day of Discovery***

Promotional video showing now: <https://youtu.be/i4OxYWXRhOA>

HONOLULU (Oct. 19, 2021) – The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Astronaut Lacy Veach Day of Discovery – a free science-based event which honors the life and legacy of Hawai'i's second astronaut Charles Lacy Veach – will be held virtually on October 30, 2021, 12:00 p.m. Hawai'i Standard Time on YouTube at <http://www.spacegrant.hawaii.edu/index.php/lacy-veach-day/>. The free online event is presented by the Hawai'i Space Grant Consortium with the support of Hawaiian Electric, the founding and sustaining sponsor for 20 years, along with community organizations and individuals.

Astronaut Lacy Veach Day of Discovery is intended for students of all ages and parents and educators interested in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) topics. Highlights of the virtual event include inspirational guest speakers, workshops and demonstrations that participants can do using materials available in the home. This year's theme is "The Stars are Calling Us" which draws upon the reinvigorated interest in space exploration and discoveries.

Among the featured speakers are women in STEM careers with welcome messages by NASA Astronaut Megan McArthur from the International Space Station; Shelee Kimura, appointed the first woman to lead Hawaiian Electric as president/CEO; and Hawaiian Electric engineer Brianne Yamada, who is also the 2021 Hawai'i Cherry Blossom Queen. Hawai'i Governor David Ige, who proclaimed October 30, 2021 as the Astronaut Veach Day of Discovery, also will provide remarks.

**-more-**

The keynote address will be provided by Dr. Heather Kaluna, assistant professor of astronomy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo where she also earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and physics. Kaluna was born and raised in Pahoa, Hawai'i Island, and holds a Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Institute for Astronomy.

Other guest presenters include Hawai'i-raised women in STEM:

- Amber Imai-Hong, avionics engineer, Hawaii Space Flight Laboratory, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Imai-Hong is a graduate of Waiākea High School and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
- Brialyn Onodera, thermal systems engineer, National Solar Observatory, Maui. Onodera is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i Campus (Kea'au) and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
- Nicole Yamase, Ph.D. candidate in marine biology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Yamase is the first Pacific Islander to voyage to the deepest part of the Earth, The Mariana Trench, and its deepest region, the Challenger Deep (35,827 feet), on March 11, 2021.
- Christianne Izumigawa, computer engineer, Naval Information Warfare Center (formerly SPAWAR) in San Diego, CA. Izumigawa is a graduate of Pearl City High School and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
- Christina Felicitas, RF/microwave design engineer, Northrup Grumman in Redondo Beach, CA. Felicitas is a graduate of Farrington High School, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Hands-on STEM Workshops using materials available in the home include:

<b>Topic/Workshop</b>	<b>Led by:</b>
Bernoulli: How things fly	Bryan Silver, Kalani High School
Microgravity: Why do you float in space?	Hawaii Space Flight Laboratory
Chromatography: Separating pigments	Dr. Kate Perrault, Chaminade University
Forensic Science: Fingerprints	Cynthia Cheung, Chaminade University
Chemistry of Butter	Dr. Francis Sakai-Kawada, Chaminade University
Chemistry of Ice Cream	Dr. Kate Perrault, Chaminade University
Making Circuits using dough	Jaymar Bucasas, Hawaiian Electric
Nature Math: Fibonacci Sequence	Ethan and Maya Kimura
STEM Magic	Harvey Ouchi and Ron Ishimaru, Hawaii Magicians
Data Science: Clustering your kitchen utensils	Dr. Laura Tipton, Chaminade University

**-more-**

promo video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i40xYWXRh0A> **A FREE Virtual Experience**



# 20TH ANNUAL LACY VEACH DAY OF DISCOVERY


12:00 pm Hawaii time *October 30, 2021*

<http://www.spacegrant.hawaii.edu/index.php/lacy-veach-day>


## THE STARS ARE CALLING US

**STEM Workshops**  
**Guest Presenters**  
**Trivia Questions**





**MEGAN MCARTHUR**  
NASA ASTRONAUT, SPACEX CREW-2 MISSION



**2021 Hawaii Cherry Blossom Queen**  
**Brianna Yamada**  
Hawaiian Electric Engineer and 2021 Hawaii Cherry Blossom Queen



**STEM Professionals**  
**Girl Powered**



**Dr. Heather Kaluna**  
Assistant Professor of Astronomy, University of Hawaii at Hilo



High affinity: The chemical likes the water more & will move further up the paper with the water

Low affinity: the chemical likes the water less & will not move with the water & stay closer to the bottom

**Workshops:**

- Bernoulli: how things fly
- Microgravity: why do you float in space?
- Chromatography: separating pigments
- Forensic Science: Fingerprints
- Chemistry of Butter
- Chemistry of Ice Cream
- Squishy Circuits using dough
- Nature Math: Fibonacci Sequence
- STEM Magic
- Data Science: Clustering your kitchen utensils

For further information: [afung@higp.hawaii.edu](mailto:afung@higp.hawaii.edu)

