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Placitas Community Library and Albuquerque Astronomical Society Invite the Public to a Star Party

PLACITAS, N.M. - Look to the skies! The Placitas Community Library and The Albuquerque Astronomical Society (TAAS) invite the public to a free Star Party on Saturday, November 7, 2026, beginning at 6 p.m. The evening will feature solar viewing, an astronomy presentation, and an opportunity to explore the night sky through a variety of telescopes.

The event begins at 6 p.m. with solar viewing, followed by a presentation at 6:30 p.m. from TAAS's own Star Master, who will introduce attendees to the stars, planets, and other celestial objects visible that evening. As darkness falls, enthusiastic members of TAAS will guide participants through observations using telescopes of different types and sizes. Viewing is expected to continue until approximately 10 p.m., weather permitting.

Star Parties offer a fun, informal way for people of all ages to learn about astronomy, meet fellow sky watchers, and develop a greater appreciation for the universe. The event is free and open to everyone, from the youngest aspiring astronomers to lifelong stargazers. Families, friends, and curious first-time observers are encouraged to attend.

Tips for a Successful Night of Stargazing

Organizers recommend arriving before dark to make parking easier and watch the setup of the various telescopes. Visitors are asked to use only their parking lights when entering the parking lot to help preserve everyone's night vision. Library parking attendants, affectionately known as the "Parking Jedi," will be on hand to direct arriving vehicles.

Guests should dress warmly and bring a flashlight or headlamp covered with red film or equipped with a red light. Red lighting helps preserve night vision, making it easier to see faint objects in the night sky. Only red flashlights or headlamps should be used in the observing area.

The Star Party will be canceled in the event of rain, heavy cloud cover, or high winds. Visitors should check the library website for weather-related updates before traveling to the event.

Event Details

What: Star Party at Placitas Community Library
When: Saturday, November 7, 2026, beginning at 6 p.m.
Schedule:

- 6 p.m.: Solar viewing
- 6:30 p.m.: Astronomy presentation by TAAS's Star Master
- After dark–approximately 10 p.m.: Guided telescope viewing

Where: Placitas Community Library, 453 Highway 165, Placitas, New Mexico
Admission: Free and open to the public
Co-sponsors: The Albuquerque Astronomical Society and Placitas Community Library

Directions

From Albuquerque, take Interstate 25 north to Exit 242 in Bernalillo. Turn right (east) onto Highway 165 and travel approximately 4.5 miles. The library is on the left (north) side of the road. If you pass the fire station, you have gone too far.

For additional information, visit www.placitaslibrary.com or www.taas.org. You may also call (505) 867-3355 or email taas@taas.org.

Bring your curiosity, dress for the evening chill, and join the Placitas community for a memorable night under the stars!