

Starfest

August 22 to 25, 2019



Starfest is Canada's largest annual amateur astronomy conference and star party attracting hundreds of astronomy enthusiasts from Ontario, 5 neighbouring provinces and 19 USA states. It has been ranked among the top star parties in North America by Sky and Telescope magazine and among the top 10 star parties in the world by BBC Sky at Night magazine. Attendance was about 600 people last year. Located in South Western Ontario, Starfest is within a one day drive of 20 million people in Ontario, Quebec, Michigan, New York and Ohio. The annual event takes place over a 1 week period and is in its 38th year of operation.

Program Changes For Exhibitors and Vendors

Last year's attendees expressed a strong interest in learning about new products coming into the market. As a result we have made a number of program changes to give manufacturers and vendors a better opportunity to demonstrate their products.

- 1) A designated exhibitor and retail sales area is located central to the activities taking place. This space can be used for night time demonstrations as well.
- 2) Time will be allocated on the Thursday from 1 pm to 5 pm (on a first come basis) to give 45 min. talks to the attendees.

3) Designated vendor/exhibitor camping sites in a prime location will be set up to give an opportunity for night time sales and demonstrations in addition to the main sales area.

4) Exhibitors and vendors may participate in 3 levels promotional advertising

Bronze: A donation to the prize table.

Recognition as a supporter in advertising and during Saturday evening dinner.

Silver: A major prize of \$500 or more

Listed predominately as a supporter in advertising and an insert in hand out to attendees. Signage at the dinner.

Gold: Supporter of a major portion of Starfest ie.

-Photo contest

-internet connection

-a facility ie. tent

Value of \$1,250 or more

5) If you are a retailer, distributor or manufacturer of astronomy products you need to be here. If you provide products or services to sophisticated campers, you need to be here.

In order to be included in promotional advertising you must make a commitment to attend no later than April 1, 2019.

Exhibitors and vendors may wish to contact the Best Western Hotel in Walkerton, Ontario for a special Starfest room rate.

Like to know more, visit the Starfest website at NYAA.ca or contact Peter Ridout, Vendor Coordinator at penetang@sent.com or 289-252-0394