

The August Sky

Clear your calendars now for the August 21st total eclipse of the Sun. From Lexington, the Moon will cover only 95% of the Sun's disk, a very poor second to seeing a total eclipse. And any part of the Sun's disk that is visible is dangerous to view without proper filtering. (You cannot make your own safe filter.) Safe glasses for viewing the Sun can be purchased inexpensively from sites such as [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#). I would order now, as this is going to be a very well observed eclipse from coast to coast. For most people this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to be wowed by the Sun.

The August SkyTalk will be devoted to August's total eclipse, given by a veteran eclipse chaser, Dr. Tom Troland. If you miss this one, there *is* another one in North America in 2024 on April 8th, but what are the odds of a clear day in early April?

Come and see the night sky through many different telescopes at one of the [Blue Grass Amateur Astronomy Club](#)'s outings at Raven Run. The remaining (Saturday) dates in 2017 are:

July 22 at 9:00pm	September 16 at 8:00pm
August 19 at 8:30pm	October 21 at 7:00pm.

Call [Raven Run](#) an hour before the event to verify that the weather will be sufficiently clear.

You will find an [all-sky finder chart](#) and the PDF of this flyer at [our web site](#). A simulated view of the eclipsed sky can be found [here](#).

UK MacAdam STUDENT OBSERVATORY

UK's MacAdam Student Observatory, designed and built in 2007, was officially opened in 2008. The Observatory is located atop Parking Structure #2 between the W.T. Young Library and the Chemistry-Physics Building, and its dome houses a high-quality 20-inch reflecting telescope plus a variety of state-of-the-art optical instruments. The Observatory is dedicated to serving UK students as well as astronomy enthusiasts of every age and experience level throughout Kentucky.

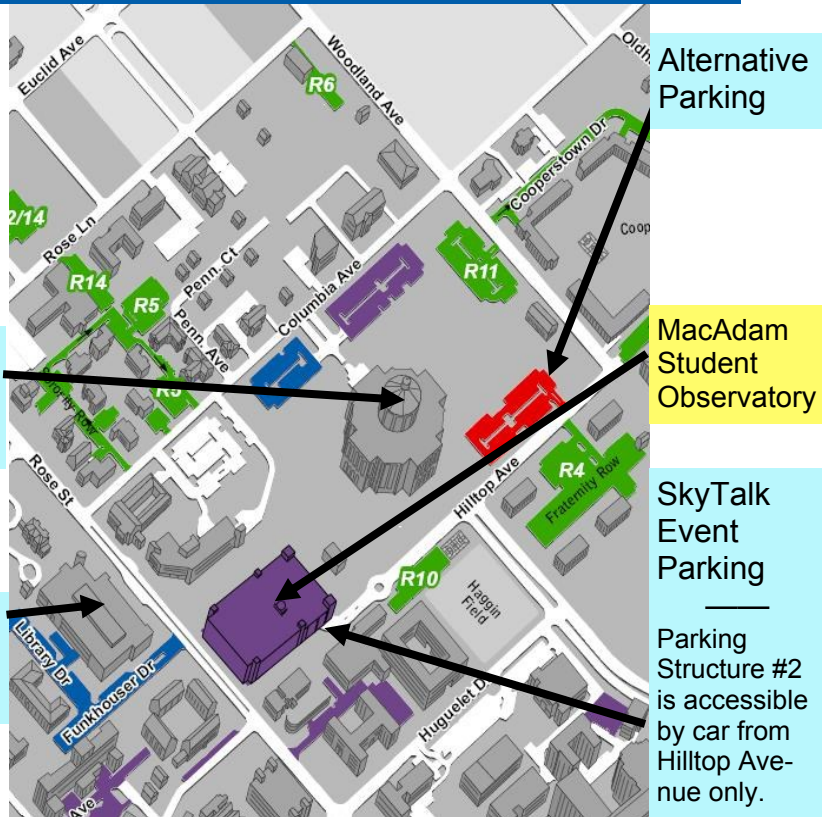
Are you interested in informal talks on astronomy and astrophysics? Are you curious about telescope design and operation? Would you care to take a look through the eyepiece?

The Department of Physics & Astronomy in UK's College of Arts & Sciences welcomes you! Join us to experience the excitement of stargazing through a powerful telescope. An up-to-date calendar of events can be found on our website:

<https://pa.as.uky.edu/observatory>



How to find the MacAdam Student Observatory



Monthly Meetings

The MSO hosts monthly public-observing sessions, each with a kick-off 40 minute presentation in the Chemistry-Physics Building. The presentations will take place even on cloudy nights. If the sky is clear, the observatory will open after the talk! Can't make the SkyTalk? Then come after!

Next month:

Angela Collier

September 14, 2017 - **8:00 PM** - Chem-Phys Room 155

Kentucky SkyTalk



Dr. Tom Troland— [University of Kentucky](#)
Thursday - August 10, 2017 8:00 PM
Chemistry-Physics Building Room 155

The August 21 Total Solar Eclipse
Don't You Dare Miss It!

Total solar eclipses are the most spectacular predictable natural phenomena. But you must be in the total eclipse path to see this spectacle. In Lexington, 95% of the Sun's disk will be covered. But this is not good enough! Learn where to see the total eclipse, how to protect your eyes, and what to look for as day turns briefly into night on August 21.

Tonight's *Kentucky SkyTalk* is part of an ongoing series. These are presented by the UK Department of Physics and Astronomy, and the MacAdam Student Observatory. Held every 2nd Thursday of every month, they are always free and open to the public.