

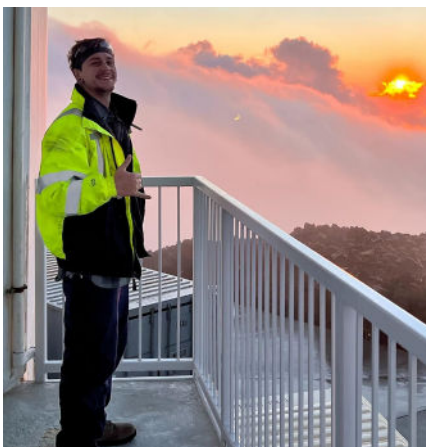


STEM Volunteer Profiles



J.D. Armstrong
UH Institute for Astronomy
Faulkes Telescope-North
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J.D. Armstrong is the project scientist for the Faulkes Telescope North -- the largest telescope built for education and outreach. He is also the Maui Technology Education and Outreach Specialist for the University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy. J.D. received his Bachelor's degree in physics from Westminster College of Salt Lake City, a master's degree in physics from Michigan State University, and his PhD from the University of Hawaii. His research interests include solar physics, minor planets, and exoplanets, but he spends most of his time helping middle and high school students participate in real science. He claims that he is creating the scientists of the future.



James Barry
National Solar Observatory
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James Barry currently works as an Electrical Technician at the National Solar Observatory on Maui. He helps to maintain, repair & upgrade the telescope electronically. He has an Associate's Degree in Electrical Engineering from ITT Tech in 2014. He was Born & Raised in the Metro-Detroit area where he has been employed by a diverse range of companies prior to coming to Maui. Spanning in work that deals with Circuit Board Repair, Automotive Electronics, Musical Instrument Electronics, Residential Electricity and Designing and Integrating of Solar Battery Back-Up Systems for Streetscape Furniture such as Bus Shelters and Dog Park Equipment. His goal is to forever travel & work with cutting edge technology to advance his skills & understanding of the world around him. James is a Laid Back Extrovert that strives to make the best out of every situation. When work is at rest he enjoys to Hike, CrossFit, Read, help people out & play Rocket League.



STEM Volunteer Profiles



Eric Bio works as an Electronics/Electrical Technician III and was born and raised on Maui. Eric graduated from the University of Hawaii Maui College 2019 after completing the Electronic & Computer Engineering Technology (ECET) program. He enjoys working out, videogames and auto detailing cars.

Eric Bio

National Solar Observatory

Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope

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Tishanna Bailey Ben is the Hawai'i Community Outreach and Education Programs Lead for the National Solar Observatory (NSO). She graduated from the University of Hawai'i with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in cell and molecular biology, and a Master of Science (M.S.) in tropical conservation biology and environmental science. Prior to her position at NSO, she worked as a laboratory technician and graduate researcher with the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i (RCUH). She also taught middle and high school science courses at Ka'u High and Pahala Elementary School on the Big Island.

Tishanna Bailey Ben

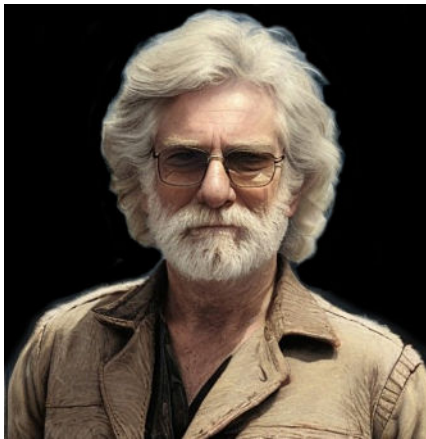
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STEM Volunteer Profiles



Brian Day
SSERVI / NASA
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Brian Day currently serves as Acting Staff Scientist at NASA's Solar System Exploration Research Virtual Institute (SSERVI). He is also SSERVI's Lead for Lunar and Planetary Mapping and Modeling. In this role, he serves as program office level project manager and science lead for NASA's Solar System Treks Project (<https://trek.nasa.gov>). Brian has participated in various lunar and Mars analog field studies in extreme environments here in Earth. He previously served as Education and Public Outreach Lead for the LCROSS and LADEE robotic missions to the Moon. In 2007 he flew on NASA's Aurigid MAC mission to record debris from Comet Kiess entering Earth's upper atmosphere.



Paul Jeffers
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Paul Jeffers is a Mechanical Engineer by education / training and experience. He started his career in the UK, after graduating college, training with a gas company before moving into Naval Defense. His first endeavor into the telescope world was as the Telescope work Package Manager for the VISTA project managed by ROE and installed at ESO's Paranal Observatory. After completion of VISTA he moved to the US as part of the Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope (DKIST) project team in charge of the Telescope Mount Assembly. Paul has stayed on with DKIST in Maui as the IT&C execution Manager and now as the Deputy Tech Ops Manager.



STEM Volunteer Profiles



Dylan Kee is a postdoctoral researcher with the National Solar Observatory. He got his B.S. in 2011 and his Ph.D. in 2015, both in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Delaware. Since then he worked in Germany from 2016 to 2018 and Belgium from 2018 to 2021 before finally arriving on Maui. Dylan's main research interest is understanding how our Sun and other stars blow winds, which he studies by comparing computer simulations with real observations. Outside of work, Dylan enjoys hiking and board games.

Dylan Kee

National Solar Observatory

Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope

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Cindy Krach is a retired veterinarian who practiced on Maui for 30 years. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1990 with a Doctorate Degree in Veterinary Medicine. A self proclaimed lifelong student of everything, she has a natural curiosity for science and understanding how things work. She is an avid amateur astronomer and a member of Haleakala Amateur Astronomers. Cindy has been involved in public outreach with the Institute for Astronomy on Maui since 2010. She is the Sketching Observing Program coordinator for the Astronomical League, an umbrella organization composed of over 240 amateur astronomical societies from all across the United States. Her astronomical sketches have appeared in and on the cover of Sky & Telescope magazine. She is a volunteer with Haleakala National Park as a Trail Steward as well as an Astronomy Interpreter Volunteer.

Cindy Krach

Haleakalā Amateur

Astronomers

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STEM Volunteer Profiles



Joseph Minafra
NASA Ames Research Center
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Joseph Minafra serves as Lead of Technical Systems and Collaborative Technology Specialist for the NASA Solar System Exploration Research Virtual Institute (SSERVI). Joe has an extremely diverse background that ranges from meteoritic studies, biology, project management, software development including web design, collaborative technology development to Scientific Illustration and graphic design, even a few years as a professional Chef. With his varied background, Joe has been responsible for a broad set of technical tasks for the NASA Ames Center Director as well as the Space and BioSciences Divisions, Astro and Synthetic Biology workshops just to name a few. Currently, his work is to oversee technology innovation and robotics education initiatives. He is excited to share his NASA experiences with Journey through the Universe communities!



Brialyn Onodera
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Brialyn Onodera was born and raised on Hawai'i Island where she graduated from Kamehameha Schools Kea'au campus, and her proximity to the telescopes on Maunakea throughout her childhood inspired her to pursue engineering. Brialyn received her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 2017, and her EMBA from the Shidler College of Business in 2022. Brialyn's work at the Daniel K. Inouye Solar telescope involves collaboration with her peers to execute various engineering projects and analyze data in support of telescope operations. One of Brialyn's greatest passions is supporting the visibility and presence of kama'āina within STEM projects in Hawai'i. In her free time she enjoys traveling, yoga, and concerts.



STEM Volunteer Profiles



Evan Pascual
National Solar Observatory
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Evan Pascual is the Communications Officer for the National Solar Observatory / Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope. Evan was born and raised in Lahaina and graduated from Lahainaluna High School. He earned a BBA in Marketing at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Evan's passion for the environment and creative writing led him to pursue his interests and a career in science! After college, he worked at the Maui Ocean Center where he helped promote conservation and the relationship between Hawaiians and the sea. Evan has since made the jump from sea to space, and currently works with solar scientists. His job is to foster wonder for the Sun and its relationship with Earth. In his free time, Evan enjoys playing guitar, basketball, and tennis. He's also enjoys the outdoors and connecting with friends for trivia nights and board games.

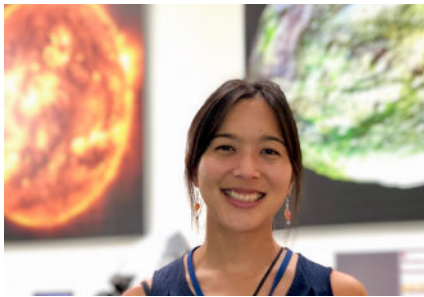


Tom Schad
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Tom Schad is an Associate Astronomer at the National Solar Observatory (NSO) & Daniel K Inouye Solar Telescope (DKIST) located on Maui. Tom earned a Bachelor of Science in Physics and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Notre Dame in 2007. From there, he moved to Tucson, AZ, where he completed his PhD at the University of Arizona on advanced methods to measure the magnetic field properties of the solar chromosphere & corona. In 2013, Tom moved to Maui to be the instrument scientist for one of the DKIST first light instruments being built by the University of Hawaii, and in 2015, he joined the NSO & DKIST as a scientist focused on DKIST instrumentation, operations, and coronal physics. He enjoys spending time with his wife Molly, and chasing around their three kids.



STEM Volunteer Profiles



Stacey Sueoka
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Stacey Sueoka was born and raised on Kauai. Growing up she spent many days at the beach with family and friends. Her ocean hobbies include fishing and diving, and on land she enjoys hiking, cooking and playing soccer. After graduating from Kauai High School in 2003 she went to Pacific University in Oregon to pursue her Bachelor's degree in Physics. After two years teaching English in Japan, she came back to the US and earned her PhD in Optical Sciences at the University of Arizona. Now Stacey is a Senior Optical Engineer at the Daniel K Inouye Solar Telescope, the world's largest solar telescope. Her job is to ensure the telescope's optical system is in tip top shape, like a telescope's eye doctor, so scientists can zoom in on the surface of the sun to take mind blowing images and collect important scientific data!