



SOL (Solar Observing Lab) is a daylong event focused on safe solar observing, equipment and understanding eclipses. This event is in preparation for the upcoming annular eclipse (October 14, 2023) and total eclipse (April 8th, 2024) and will provide a hands-on space for anyone interested in observing the sun.

The SOL takes place October 22, 2022, running from 10am to 3pm and will be held at the Challenger Space Center in North Phoenix. During this time people of all ages are welcome to attend and learn about our star and how to safely observe it and the phenomena that occur around it. The event is open to the public and people of all ages and interest.

SOL will host a collection of astronomers sharing a wide variety of modern-day solar equipment from filters to telescopes. This will allow attendees to have a rare, hands-on, experience with a much of today's top tier equipment giving them a chance to truly understand the different types of filters and telescopes for safe observations of the sun.

Aside from the displays outside there will also be two, one-hour talks presented inside. These talks will cover the basics of equipment and how to prepare for the coming eclipses. We will cover how to safely observe and photograph these celestial events. The presentations will be limited to 40 people per class and require pre-registration. If the event space can accommodate more than 40 this can be discussed further. We want to make sure as many people can attend the talks as possible but also give enough time to cover questions. The talks will be held at 10:30am and 1:30pm, each last one hour.

A short 30-minute talk will be presented from noon to 12:30pm and covers safe techniques students and educators can use to observe the 2023 and 2024 eclipses.

The SOL is a truly unique opportunity for people to experience a wide variety of solar equipment. Due to solar astronomy's niche much of this equipment is very specialized and expensive. Because of this it is very rare to have a wide variety of equipment laid out for viewing in one place. SOL looks to provide that opportunity and give people a chance to truly experience our local star and how to approach it safely.

SOL is a joint effort between Focus Astronomy and the Astronomy Association of Arizona as well as the Challenger Space Center of Arizona. The schedule for this event can be found on page 2 of this packet.



Event Schedule

October 22, 2022

- Astronomers Set Up: 8:30am to 10:00am
- Doors Open to the Public: 10:00am
- First Talk (inside): 10:30am to 11:30am
- Second Talk (inside): Noon to 12:30pm
- Third Talk (inside): 1:00pm to 2:00pm
- Event Closes to the Public: 3:00pm
- Astronomers Break Down: 3:00pm to 4:30pm

Talk Schedule:

Preparing for a Solar Eclipse: 10:30am to 11:30am

This talk covers the basics needed to observe the 2023 and 2024 eclipses. From basics equipment to photographing it we cover what is needed to get your eclipse image and how to do it safely.

Simple Safe Sun: Noon to 12:30pm

This short presentation covers safe eclipse viewing techniques for students and educators.

Preparing for a Solar Eclipse: 1:00pm to 2:00pm

This talk covers the basics needed to observe the 2023 and 2024 eclipses. From basics equipment to photographing it we cover what is needed to get your eclipse image and how to do it safely.



Public Information

SOL is open to people of all ages and interest levels. There is a general admission fee to enter the Challenger Space Center, all admissions to go funding the center. There is no additional fee to attend SOL.

General Admission Information:

- Adults: \$10
- Children: \$8
- Children Under 5: Free
- Paradise Valley Student (with ID): Free
- Paradise Valley Teachers (with ID): Free

Tickets can be purchased at the door, or a pre-registration will be available ahead of time, passes can then be picked up at the Challenger Gift shop on the day of SOL.

There is no additional fee to attend the talks, but it is requested that you pre-register to save a seat in the talks.

Parking:

Parking is available at the Challenger Space Center, but spaces are limited. Cars can park along the street if the lot is full. There is no fee or time limit for parking.



Contact Information

SOL is a joint effort between Focus Astronomy, the Astronomy Association of Arizona, and Challenger Space Center. If there are any questions, please see the following for contact information.

Location:

Challenger Space Center

17835 N 44th St

Phoenix AZ 85032

623-322-2001

www.azchallenger.org

Scott Oliver

soliver@challenger.net

Main Event Contact:

Kevin LeGore

602-999-3731

focusastronomy@gmail.com

Main Event Website:

www.focusastro.org/sol

Event Maps



Telescope Field:

Telescope field is on the basketball courts on the south side of the campus.

North side of the courts is for telescopes. Southside of the courts is astronomer/vendor parking. Additional parking for astronomers is vendors can be found on the fire road.

Vendor/Astronomer Entrance:

Vendors and astronomers will enter the rear gate off Grovers Ave. You will then be guided into the telescope field. The telescope field gate will be closed at 9:45am, cars will not be able to leave until after 3pm.



Gift Shop:

The Gift Shop is where attendees can purchase tickets or pick up pre-ordered tickets.

Once you have your tickets you can walk to the museum, attend any daytime activities as well as the SOL event.

Public Entrance:

The main entry point can be found on the North end of the main parking lot.

Enter the gate and follow the breeze way to the Gift Shop to purchase tickets or pick up pre-ordered tickets. This pathway will be designated with signs.



Public Parking:

On site public parking is available on the south end of the campus. There are two lots available, and parking is free.

If lots are pull parking along the street is also an option.