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NASA Scientists, 30+ Telescopes and Cultural Celebrations Come Together for Free San Bernardino STEM Event

San Bernardino, CA — What happens when astronomy, science and culture come together under the stars? Norton Science and Language Academy (NSLA) invites the community to find out at its fourth annual Noche de las Estrellas (Night of the Stars) on Saturday, November 14, from 5 to 9 pm. This free, family-friendly celebration will bring NASA scientists, hands-on STEM activities, cultural performances and more than 30 telescopes to the heart of San Bernardino.

Known to the community simply as "Noche," the event has grown from a local school initiative in 2021 into a regional celebration of science and culture. Attendees of all ages will have the opportunity to explore the night sky through telescopes of various sizes, participate in interactive STEM activities, meet scientists and researchers, and enjoy multicultural performances and festivities. By bringing these experiences together in a welcoming environment, Noche de las Estrellas aims to make science accessible to families while inspiring the next generation to reach for the stars.

"Noche de las Estrellas is one of my favorite events of the year because it brings people of all ages together to celebrate both the wonders of our night sky and the rich cultures that make up our community," said Erika Agosto, Principal of Norton Science and Language Academy. "It's a wonderful reminder that learning and discovery have no age limit."

The event will feature participation from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), NASA Ames Research Center, Caltech and other educational and community partners, giving local families a unique opportunity to connect with professionals working in science and space exploration.

This year's celebration also marks a special milestone: the 30th anniversary of the Goldstone Apple Valley Radio Telescope (GAVRT) program, a longstanding educational partnership between the Lewis Center for Educational Research and NASA/JPL that has brought real-world scientific research into classrooms around the world.

Through GAVRT, students have the unique opportunity to remotely operate a 34-meter radio telescope at NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex and collect data used in scientific research. The program supports investigations involving Jupiter, radio astronomy and other areas of space science, allowing students to contribute to meaningful research alongside professional scientists.

For NSLA senior Leobardo Morales, Noche de las Estrellas offers an experience that goes beyond the classroom.

"It's a fantastic opportunity, really," Morales said. "You have a once in a lifetime chance to learn so much about space, and involve yourself in multicultural activities and exhibits… My favorite part of the event was when I got to see Saturn's rings through a telescope. I hadn't thought I'd ever be able to see them so clearly with my very own eyes."

Event Details

4th Annual Noche de las Estrellas (Night of the Stars)
Saturday, November 14, 2026 from 5:00–9:00 pm
Norton Science and Language Academy, 230 S. Waterman Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92408
Free and open to the public

About Norton Science and Language Academy:
Norton Science and Language Academy (NSLA), located in San Bernardino, CA, is a TK–12, tuition-free public charter school operated by the Lewis Center for Educational Research. NSLA is committed to preparing students for academic success, leadership, and meaningful engagement in an ever-changing world. Through rigorous instruction, STEM integration, focus on bilingualism and biliteracy, and real-world learning opportunities, including partnerships with NASA and JPL, NSLA empowers students to excel and become global citizens.

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