DAVIS PLANETARIUM

Starmap MAY/JUNE 2018



601 Light Street • Baltimore's Inner Harbor 410.685.5225 • www.marylandsciencecenter.org

NORTH AI390IS2A Polaris CANCER BOÖTES Arcturus AGITTARIU VIRGO LIBRA **SOUTH**

TO USE MAP:

Hold the map in front of you so that the direction you are facing is on the bottom. The stars on the lower half on the map will match up with the stars in the sky. The center of the map is directly overhead in the sky. Constellation and star pattern names are all capitalized. Names of stars have only the first letter capitalized. The map is valid within an hour of:

11:30pm Mid-May EDT 9:30pm Mid-June EDT MAGNITUDE is a measure of a star's brightness.

The lower the number, the brighter the star

- •1st or brighter magnitude star
- •2nd magnitude star
- •3rd magnitude star
- 4th or fainter magnitude star

ECLIPTIC:

The imaginary path of the Sun through the year. Constellations of the Zodiac surround the Ecliptic and the Moon and planets appear along it.

Starmap MAY/JUNE 2018

IN THE MAY/JUNE SKY

May 2

Venus near Aldebaran

May 4

Moon near Saturn (morning)

May 6

Moon near Mars

May 8

Last quarter Moon
Jupiter in opposition
(See Celestial Highlights)

May 11

Planet Party (See *Celestial Highlights*)

May 13

Moon near Mercury

May 15 New Moon

May 16

Moon near Aldebaran

May 17

Moon near Venus

May 21

First quarter Moon near Regulus

May 27

Moon near Jupiter

O May 29 Full Moon

= Observatory events

June 1

Moon near Saturn (morning)

June 3

Moon near Mars

June 5

Superior conjunction of Mercury

June 6

Last quarter Moon

June 13

New Moon

June 16

Moon near Venus

June 17

Moon near Regulus

June 20

First quarter Moon

lune 21

Summer Solstice—official start of summer!

(See Celestial Highlights)

lune 23

Moon near Jupiter

June 27

Saturn at opposition (See *Celestial Highlights*)

Full Moon near Saturn

OF

June 29

Planet Party

(See Celestial Highlights)

CELESTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Planet Oppositions and Conjunctions with Sun — The astronomical term *opposition* describes when an object appears opposite the sun in the sky as seen from Earth. Planets at opposition are visible all night. Jupiter goes into opposition May 9 and Saturn is in opposition on June 27. In contrast, conjunction means that two objects appear in the same place in the sky as seen from Earth. Mercury is in conjunction with the Sun on June 6. Planets in conjunction with the sun are not visible.

Planet Parties, May 11, 2018 and June 29, 2018 - Our evening's observations start with focusing on planet Venus, followed by Jupiter. Jupiter rises at sunset and is in the sky all night for our May 11 observing night. For the June 29 observatory night, Saturn rises at sunset and is in the sky all night. Join MSC staff as we party with the planets, weather permitting.

Summer Solstice, June 21 – The solstice marks the beginning of summer for the Northern Hemisphere with the longest hours of daylight, and the shortest night as the North Pole is tilted towards the Sun.

MISSION HIGHLIGHT

InSight Mars Lander launches May 5 - InSight (NASA mission acronym for: Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport), is the first mission to explore Mars' deep interior. It will land in November, 2018. For more information visit: https://mars.nasa.gov/insight/

The bi-monthly STARMAP is available on the web at http://www.mdsci.org/pdf/Planetarium/STARMAP.pdf

CROSBY RAMSEY MEMORIAL OBSERVATORY INFO 410-545-2999

Free public observing nights are held Friday evenings from 7:00-10:30pm. Please call after 5:00pm on Friday for observing conditions.

SPECIAL FOCUS EVENTS - weather permitting

Fri, May 11, 2018 - Planet Party - Jupiter Fri, June 29, 2018 - Planet Party - Saturn



MERCURY

When:

Morning sky, until May 29 Evening sky, after June 14

Where:

East, May West, June

Constellation:

Pisces, Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer



VENUS

When: Evening sky

Where: West

Constellation:

Taurus, Gemini, Cancer



MARS

When:

After Midnight

Where:

Southeast to South

Constellation:

Sagittarius, Capricornus



JUPITER

When:

All night

Where:

Southeast to Southwest

Constellation:

Libra



SATURN

When:

Morning sky, May Late night to dawn, June

Where:

Southeast to Southwest

Constellation:

Sagittarius