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### **EAAE Launches Catch a Star 2013**

The EAAE has launched *Catch a Star* on December 20th. "Catch a Star!" is a contest that has been held as a result of the collaboration between the [European Association for Astronomy Education \(EAAE\)](#) and [European Southern Observatory \(ESO\)](#).

This year other organizations like Rosen Observatory have joint the organization to help provide wonderful observational prizes for the winning schools.



"Catch a Star!" includes more than one competition, so there is something for everyone. The idea of the program is to encourage students to work together, to learn about astronomy and discover things for themselves by researching information.

The goal of this European Astronomy Contest "Catch a Star" is to stimulate the creativity and independent work of students, to strengthen and expand their astronomical knowledge and skills, and to help the spread of information technologies in the educational process. Schools are welcomed to present their works.

#### ***What do I need to do?***

Write a report about an astronomical topic of your own choice (this could be a specific astronomical object, phenomenon, observation, scientific problem, theory, and so on). You may also wish to include practical activities such as your own observations, or experiments. Your report must be in English.

Please do not use automatic translators such as "Babelfish".

Please follow the rules and guidelines below, in "What do I need to include in my project?".

#### ***When is the deadline for entries?***

The deadline for all entries is Sunday 30 April, 2013, at 17:00h Central European Time.

#### ***How do I submit my entry?***

- Develop the Project in .PDF file;
- The project has to be e-mailed in pdf format to [astro.edu@gmail.com](mailto:astro.edu@gmail.com);
- The project must be submitted until Sunday, 30th of April 2013, at 17:00h Central European Time.

#### ***What do I need to include in my project?***

Here are some rules and guidelines for Catch a Star projects:

- Include a bibliography listing references for the source documents and images you have used.
- Your report should be no longer than about 5 000 words.
- It is important that your project is your own work. It is not enough just to copy text from other articles. This is why you should reference the sources you have used by citing them in a bibliography.
- We encourage you to choose an original topic. Original projects will do better than, for example, several very similar projects from the same school class.
- Please write as clearly as possible. Pay attention to scientific accuracy, clear language, and good design of your document as a whole.

#### **Links:**

[Catch a Star project](#)



**Messier 101** . Image credit: [Hubble Legacy Archive](#), [ESA](#), [NASA](#); *Processing and additional imaging* - [Robert Gendler](#)



(click on the image to see a bigger version)

This is a fantastic false-color composition of the beautiful spiral galaxy M101 is one of the last entries in Charles Messier's famous catalog. The red areas are regions of higher emission from atomic hydrogen gas, which means they are star forming regions. The sharp image shows stunning features in the galaxy's face-on disk of stars and dust along with background galaxies, some visible right through M101 itself. Also known as the Pinwheel Galaxy, M101 lies within the boundaries of the northern constellation Ursa Major, about 25 million light-years away. This galaxy is about 170,000 light-years across, this galaxy is enormous, almost twice the size of our own Milky Way galaxy.

2010 - EAAE - European Association for Astronomy Education. Edited by [Alexandre Costa](#). The contents of the links were active at the date of the publication of this newsletter, but some of them cannot be taken as granted to work in the future. Please don't answer to this e-mail.

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EAAE - European Association for Astronomy Education  
c/o European Southern Observatory, Karl Schwarzschild Straße 2,  
DE-85748 Garching bei München Germany

