

2016 HARCOURT C. "ACE" VERNON MEMORIAL LECTURE

Thursday, November 3, 2016 | 7:30 PM | Clayton Hall Conference Center



Dancing with the Stars

A celestial journey
in the Milky Way



Dr. Mike Montgomery

Almost every point of light we see in the night sky is a star, but these stars are not all alike.

Dr. Mike Montgomery will lead us on a celestial journey in our Milky Way Galaxy, showing what we can learn from star vibrations and their light. He also will show recent efforts to create bits of stellar atmospheres right here on Earth.

Montgomery is director of science operations for the Delaware Asteroseismic Research Center, University of Delaware, and a research scientist at McDonald Observatory, University of Texas at Austin.

Image: Light echoes from V838 Mon stellar flash, courtesy of NASA, ESA

**Free and open to the public.
Please register online at mountcuba.org**

Sponsored by Delaware Asteroseismic Research Center at the University of Delaware,
Mount Cuba Astronomical Observatory & Mount Cuba Astronomical Foundation



NASA Spitzer Space Telescope Infrared Image of the Milky Way

In visible-light pictures, this region cannot be seen at all because dust lying between Earth and the galactic center blocks our view.

The Milky Way is our home galaxy.

If you were looking down on the Milky Way, you would see a huge pinwheel rotating in space. Stars, dust and gas fan out from its center in long, spiraling arms.

Our solar system lies on the inner edge of the Orion Arm, about 27,000 light years from the center of the galaxy—where a giant black hole resides. If a star gets too close, the black hole will pull it in and swallow it.

Courtesy NASA StarChild, NASA.gov · Original image: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Milky_Way#/media/File:Milky_Way_IR_Spitzer.jpg

Learn more:

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www.physics.udel.edu/darc

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