



Maria Mitchell Observatory

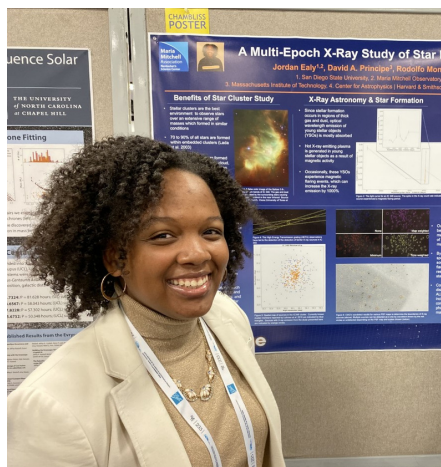
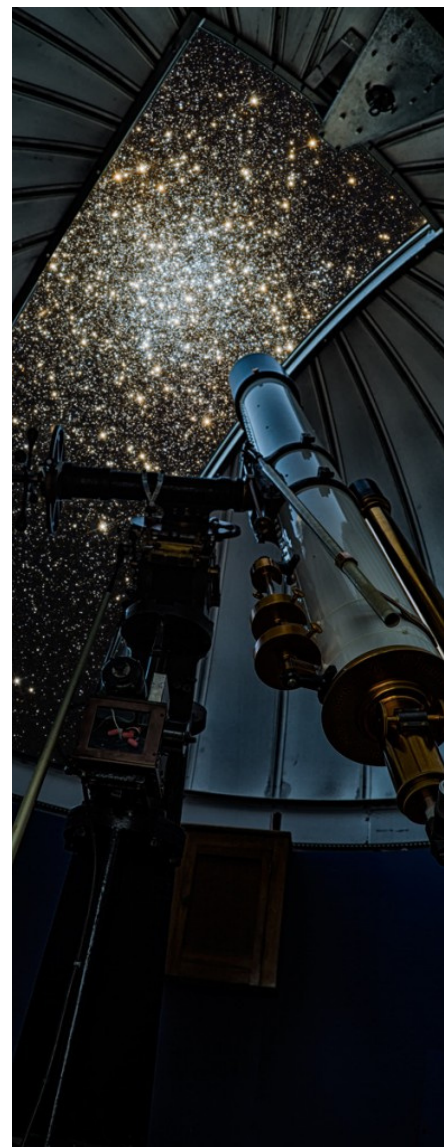
NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program

THE PROGRAM

For more than 60 years, the Maria Mitchell Observatory (MMO) has offered summer research opportunities in astronomy and astrophysics for students on the picturesque island of Nantucket. Six summer internship positions will be available in 2022 for qualified undergraduate astronomy and physics students through the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program, which is supported by a generous grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

RESEARCH

REU students at the MMO work on individualized research projects under the guidance of experienced astronomers. Research at MMO emphasizes state-of-the-art data reduction techniques and thoughtful physical interpretation. Data for projects are obtained from Hubble Space Telescope, Chandra X-ray Space Telescope, leading ground-based optical, infrared and radio telescopes, and next generation surveys such as the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS). Students also obtain data and develop their hands-on observational skills with the MMO's 24" and 17" research telescopes equipped with modern CCD cameras. In addition, students have access to the digitized photographic plate collections of the MMO and the Harvard College Observatory, a unique historical resource for studies of variable objects over long time periods.



GENERAL AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Formation and evolution of stars and galaxies
- Groups and clusters of galaxies
- Stellar populations
- Cataclysmic Variable Stars
- Exoplanets
- Probing the Cosmic Web with Fast Radio Bursts
- Astrophysical masers and lasers
- Cosmology and the early Universe
- History and culture of astronomy

ELIGIBILITY

MMO offers six REU internships in astronomy each summer. These positions provide an opportunity for students to conduct independent research supervised by senior staff of the MMO and visiting scientists. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in an undergraduate institution with a planned graduation date after September 2022. U.S. citizenship or permanent residency is required.



COMPENSATION AND HOUSING

Positions will be available starting June 1st and continuing until late August. Stipends are \$2,000 monthly, and free furnished housing is also provided. Up to \$500 for round trip travel between the student's home and Nantucket is available, as are funds to present research results at the January American Astronomical Society (AAS) meeting. The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association is an affirmative action and Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all interested individuals to apply.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Completed applications consist of an essay, a resume/CV, copies of transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, and two letters of recommendation to be sent before the deadline. See our website for complete application instructions.

Questions about the MMO's REU program can be sent to Dr. Regina Jorgenson, Director of the Maria Mitchell Observatory, at rjorgenson@mariamitchell.org.

APPLY TODAY!

Visit <https://www.mariamitchell.org/get-involved/internships/reu>

Internship applications are due February 1st.

We hope to welcome you to the Nantucket Maria Mitchell Observatory!