

Astro Book Drive

Written by Lolan Naicker
Tuesday, 27 October 2009 00:08

“Astro Book Drive” – mainly focuses on improving *Astronomy Education in Developing Countries.

There are many small astronomy societies in these countries run by amateur astronomers. They conduct plenty of programs throughout the year and the participation is immense, from kids in early age to adults. But lack of resources always comes against having a good education or conducting a program.

There are plenty of excess reading materials lying in offices or libraries with no one to make use of them. These reading materials are worth a lot for the students and educators in developing countries.

Through the Astro Book Drive program, these clubs will get an opportunity to obtain some reading materials. The “ Astro Book Drive ” is founded by Prof. John Clarke of Boston University , MA and Thilina Heenatigala, General Secretary Sri Lanka Astronomical Association.

How does it work

“ Astro Book Drive ” will be contacting various donors around the world who are interested in getting involved with the project. And same time we will select astronomy clubs from developing countries that would deserve to have such a donation to improve the knowledge.

Once a party agrees to run a book drive, we will assign them to a particular astronomy club. The donors will send the materials directly to the club.

There will be a follow up for the donated materials to keep track of how they are used and to put them into best practices.

How to request

If you are an official of an astronomical club in a developing country, you are qualified to apply to receive donations. Please note that this is mainly for clubs which are really in need and once you apply we will do a back ground check up as well.

Please visit the request page at <http://astrodrive.lakdiva.net/request>

What reading materials

We are focused on giving mainly Astronomy text books which are very useful when gaining

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knowledge. Other reading materials will include, various astronomy books, magazines (sky & telescope, Astronomy, etc...).

You are welcome to apply if your club satisfies the need, and you are encouraged to circulate this information in other astronomy clubs. Also, please feel free to put the news on other websites, blogs, newsletters, etc...

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