

The Summer Science Program

SSP

The educational experience of a lifetime ... since 1959.

The “Teaching Opportunity of a Lifetime” at SSP

No ordinary summer job ... the Summer Science Program is a unique and unusually rewarding opportunity to teach and mentor some of the most promising young scientists in the world. SSP seeks candidates for Academic Director, Associate Academic Director, and Teaching Assistants for this intensive, six-week residential program for extraordinarily gifted high school students (rising seniors). Since 1959, many alumni have cited SSP as a major turning point in their lives, and gone on to prominent careers in astronomy and other sciences.

On each of two campuses – Ojai, California, and Socorro, New Mexico – two faculty deliver university-level lectures in **astronomy**, **calculus**, and **general physics** (with emphasis on orbital dynamics), teaching students to perform an **asteroid orbit determination** from first principles using their own observations and calculations. Field trips and guest speakers round out the curriculum. *For a complete description visit www.summerscience.org.*

Candidates for lecturing faculty should have a strong interest in science education, demonstrated teaching ability, enthusiasm, and energy. A PhD in a physical science, and experience in observational astronomy, are preferred but not required. **Teaching Assistant** positions are open to graduate students and upperclass undergraduates.

All faculty receive **salary, housing, meals, and travel reimbursement**. 2009 employment dates are June 9 – July 26 (Socorro) and June 16 – Aug. 2 (Ojai). Some planning time during the winter and spring will be required as well.

The Summer Science Program is an equal opportunity employer. We value a diverse faculty and encourage all qualified individuals to apply.

Contact:

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SSP faculty continue a rich tradition. For fifty years, dozens of prominent scientists have been associated with the Summer Science Program – for example:

- Griffith Observatory Director Dr. **Ed Krupp**, Class of '61, guest speaker 17 times '69-'86; "*SSP remains the most academically cohesive and intense educational experience I have ever had.*"
- Univ. of Colorado Prof. **Doug Duncan**, Class of '68, TA '74-'76, guest speaker 7 times '81-'93; "*SSP is the best of any pre-college program in the US.*"
- Univ. of Michigan Prof. **Douglas Richstone**, Class of '66, guest speaker '02-'03; "*This is a wonderful first exposure to real science.*"
- **James "The Amazing" Randi**, guest speaker 8 times '82-'05; "*To meet and confer with young minds that are open and receptive, provides me with input that shapes my own thinking.*"
- Caltech Prof. **Maarten Schmidt**, discoverer of quasars, guest speaker 33 times '60-'02
- UC Santa Cruz Prof. **Jerry Nelson**, Class of '60, designer of the Keck telescope, guest speaker 3 times '85-'05
- Caltech Prof. **David Politzer**, Nobel Laureate in physics, guest speaker 9 times '84-'95
- The late UCLA Prof. **George Abell**, SSP Academic Director '60-'83, plus guest speaker in other 6 years
- The late Caltech Prof. **Richard Feynman**, Nobel Laureate in physics, guest speaker 9 times '60-'80