

Across the Cosmos June 2025: Space Science is for Everyone

Throughout my career, I have been engaged in efforts to bridge conversations across different academic disciplines, and between scientists and general audiences. Many of these efforts have been unfunded. Presently, all of these efforts are unfunded. However, I regard communicating the benefits of science to the broadest possible audience to be critically important, and I intend to continue to do so for as long as I am able.

As you know, we are facing the largest cuts to federal agencies that fund scientific research and education that we have seen in decades. As The Planetary Society puts it, “This is an extinction-level event for the Earth and space science communities, upending decades of work and tens of billions in taxpayers' investment.” I know that CLP signatories recognize the benefits of science to society – to everyone, not just to the “eggheads” in the “ivory tower.” I encourage you to check out the economic impact of NASA in your state¹ and to sign The Planetary Society’s petition to save NASA science.²

This month, I would also like to highlight an effort of a colleague of mine at the Planetary Science Institute – Pamela Gay. Pamela spearheads CosmoQuest.³ She writes, “CosmoQuest is your place to learn and do science. This privately-funded project is providing unfiltered updates on developments in space science from around the world. From climate change to planetary exploration, to the origins of the universe, we help you understand today's latest science and what it means to humans here on Earth. Check out our flagship news show, Escape Velocity Space News, wherever you get podcasts. CosmoQuest also has a diverse Discord community where all are welcome, and the concepts of DEI are baked into how we support each other. Historically, CosmoQuest was built around Citizen Science projects, but we have chosen to remove Federally funded efforts instead of removing our DEI content. We hope to bring back privately funded citizen science this summer. Join all that we do at [CosmoQuest.org](https://cosmoquest.org) and donate at bit.ly/COX-FY25.”

Until next month,

Grace

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¹ <https://dashboards.planetary.org/nasa-science.html>

² <https://www.planetary.org/advocacy-action-center#/55>

³ <https://cosmoquest.org/x/>