



NATIONAL ESPORTS ASSOCIATION

Speaker Series: "Look Up: Exploring the Total Solar Eclipse & Beyond"

Objective: Encourage curiosity, connection, and emotional exploration through the lens of the April 8th total eclipse, merging science, gaming, and SEL.

Session 1: "Look Up: Living with a Star"

Speaker: NASA Astrophysicist, Dr. Madhulika Guhathakurta (also known as Lika)

Topics:

- Why We Look Up: Understanding Human Fascination with the Sky
- Cosmic Connections: Exploring the Impact of Eclipses on Society
- NASA's Role in Studying and Communicating Eclipses to the Public

Format: Presentation, Q&A

Session 2: "Esports and Education: Meeting Our Youth Where They Are At"

Speaker: National Esports Association President/CEO Lori Bajorek

Topics:

- Esports and Astronomy: The Intersection of Gaming and Learning
- Interactive Tools and Platforms for technology in the classroom and beyond
- Using Gaming to Foster Community Engagement in Science

Format: Interactive Discussion, Game Demos, Virtual Tour

Session 3: "Emotional Constellations: Being in the Shadow "

Speaker: Psychologist & Eclipse Chaser Expert Dr. Kate Russo

Topics:

- Emotional Intelligence and Engagement during Astronomical Phenomena
- Encouraging Wonder and Curiosity Through Mindful Observations
- SEL Strategies for Emotional Resilience during Science Engagement

Format: Workshop, Interactive Activities, Guided Mindfulness

Session 4: "Look Up Together: Building Inclusive Communities"

Panel Discussion: Representatives from NASA, Esports Community, and SEL Experts

Topics:

- Collaborative Efforts in Bridging Science, Gaming, and Emotional Awareness
- Cultivating Inclusivity and Connection in Esports Communities
- Empowering Engagement Through Cross-Disciplinary Collaborations

Format: Panel Discussion, Audience Engagement, Idea Generation

Session 5: "Look Up Live: Total Eclipse Watch Party"

Virtual Event: Live Streaming of the April 8th Total Eclipse with Commentary

Topics:

- Live Eclipse Viewing Commentary by Experts and Astronomers
- Real-time Gaming Integration and Community Interaction
- Reflections and Emotional Connections Shared by Viewers

Format: Live Streaming, Chat Interaction, Post-Event Reflections

Session 6: Expanding the Look Up! Community

Format: Networking Opportunities, Resource Sharing, Continued Engagement Plans

Topics:

This speaker series, grounded in the campaign title "Look Up," aims to unite diverse audiences by fostering curiosity, emotional connection, and shared experiences around the upcoming total eclipse. It encourages participants to look beyond, both figuratively and literally, into the wonders of the cosmos and within themselves.