

## SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)

## Interactive Presentations (IP)

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## YURI'S NIGHT RETROSPECTIVE, THE FIRST 16 YEARS OF THE WORLD SPACE PARTY

**Abstract**

Yuri's Night has been a world wide space event since 2001 celebrating human spaceflight on/around April 12th, but the history is digitally spread across a multitude of sources. This paper systematically combines global sources into a comprehensive history of the first fifteen years (2001-2015). Coined as "The World Space Party", Yuri's Night has reached the full swath of age and cultural demographics and earthly locations from pole-to-pole, even extending to orbit with the International Space Station and on to Mars with the Curiosity Rover. This paper chronologically steps through the first 16 years with highlights from internal reports, previously published papers, presentations and talks, news sources, and interviews. Besides providing a thorough retrospective, the intent of the Yuri's Night authors is to provide ideas to inspire future participation in space exploration to enhance global outreach.