

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Hands-on Space Education and Outreach (8)

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VIRTUAL EXHIBITION AS AN ALTERNATIVE PLATFORM IN DELIVERING SPACE
EDUCATION: A CASE STUDY IN MALAYSIAN SOCIETY

Abstract

The National Planetarium of Malaysia has organized many outreach programs based on astronomy and space science over the last 2 decades. However, since the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, physical outreach programs could not be run at all. Recognizing the vast challenges of continuous educating the general public, especially students during the pandemic era, National Planetarium believes in the need to develop alternative learning platforms to bring space science closer to the public. Therefore, we have developed a virtual learning platform called “Virtual Exhibition: Srikandi Angkasa” which provides an interactive way to introduce Malaysian Female Profesional Astronomers which register and a member of the International Astronomical Union (IAU). The exhibition highlighted their background, achievement and visions. At the same time, the same platform also contains the other educational promotional content such as the facility of the National Planetarium in the form of TikTok videos. The first study to report the achievement of our “Virtual Exhibition: Srikandi Angkasa”. This study found that it is widely effective among urban general public who have better access to space science awareness. We believe that it is important to make an improvement in the virtual exhibition so that it can be used for various demography, ages and races. As a part of this effort, we hope to achieve this through a new extended virtual exhibition of our local male profesional astronomers, which we called it Kesatria Angkasa (Space Knight). Keywords: Virtual Exhibition, Public Outreach, Pandemic