

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Space Culture – Public Engagement in Space through Culture (9)

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SPACE CULTURE – PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN SPACE THROUGH CULTURE

Abstract

This paper examines the role of culture in public engagement with space. It centers on the outreach and education initiatives carried out by institutions that work to connect space education with culture, including museums, space agencies, and non-profits. Examples of the kinds of events that will be covered include exhibitions of art with a space motif, cultural celebrations of space travel, and educational initiatives that use space to impart STEM concepts. Through the analysis of various case studies, this paper highlights the potential of culture to increase public engagement with space and to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of space exploration. Ultimately, this paper argues that space culture can play an important role in inspiring the next generation of space enthusiasts and supporting continued progress in space exploration. The paper also discusses how social media platforms can encourage and promote public participation in space and incorporate it into contemporary society. The development of these values with regard to space-related issues is the main emphasis of the paper because culture has a significant impact on how our identities, experiences, and perspectives are formed, affecting how we see ourselves and others. Overall, integrating space activities into culture involves finding ways to make space exploration more relevant and meaningful to people's lives, using cultural expressions to inspire interest and engagement with space activities, and creating opportunities for people from different cultures and backgrounds to connect and collaborate on space-related projects. It entails figuring out how to link the scientific and technical facets of space initiatives with the expressive forms of art, creativity, and culture that have significance for individuals. Apart from that, the study discusses the significance of culture in fostering public interest in space while highlighting the benefits and drawbacks of the subsequent activities: 1. Establishing functional institutions to spread and raise space awareness to encourage people to think about the cultural significance of space. 2. Cultural engagements like festivals, concerts, and movie showings may honor the successes of space exploration and foster a sense of togetherness among the public. 3. Information and stories about space exploration may be shared on social media platforms and other online resources, and they can be utilized to interact with the younger generations who are increasingly using these sites for communication and information gathering.

Key words: institutions, younger generation, culture, space initiatives, social media platforms, museums, art, STEM, outreach programs, festivals, space exploration, contemporary society.