



MICHIGAN SCIENCE CENTER

# Urban Skies - Equitable Universe: Using Open Space to Empower Youth to Explore Their Solar System and Beyond

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Michigan Science Center  
Credits: Michigan Science Center

Urban Skies – Equitable Universe is an out-of-school STEM learning program for urban 7th and 8th graders to learn how to explore the Solar System and navigate the surfaces of the Moon and Mars using OpenSpace, an open-source interactive visualization software developed by AMNH with NASA support.

Development of student STEM identity, co-designing with youth, and involvement of family are key elements in the three tiered opportunities: SciChats with scientists, “Junior Celestial Navigator” 40-hour workshops to learn the

software tools and converse with visitors, and “Senior Celestial Navigator” 40-hour workshops to develop skills and knowledge to decide where a mission might land.

## List of Partners:

- Association of Science and Technology Centers
- University Preparatory Science and Math Middle School
- Harlem Educational Activities Fund
- Dual Language Middle School
- Woodside Community Center
- KIPP Infinity Charter School

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