



MONTEREY INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN ASTRONOMY

MIRA la Luna: Igniting Interest in STEM for Middle School Students of the Salinas Valley

Jean Perkins

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The Oliver Observing Station at sunrise
Credits: MIRA/Wm. Bruce Weaver

MIRA la Luna is all about inspiring the next generation of scientists by bringing the Moon and the Artemis missions to underserved 7th and 8th grade classrooms around the Salinas Valley. The program will consist of a workbook, classroom visit with an astronomer, and a capstone observing night for students and their families to see the night sky with their own eyes through a telescope. The program will be developed in both

Spanish and English side-by-side, to help students and families engage together. The goal is to build excitement for STEM with memorable experiences, and inspire the pursuit of further STEM opportunities in high school and in their future careers.

List of Partners:

- Salinas Union High School District
- Gonzales Unified School District
- Soledad Unified School District
- North Monterey County Unified School District

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