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Dawn Mission Outreach E-Bulletin

34th Edition

August 4, 2011

DAWN MISSION AT VESTA IT'S FIESTA TIME!!

What's your Vesta Fiesta? Communities around the country, around the world, have created the best fiesta for their setting and audience. Some favorites?

- Vesta, Minnesota, population 316: a potluck in honor of their sister asteroid, Vesta!
- Open Space Visitor Center in Albuquerque, N.M.: presentations by Dawn science team member, Tom Prettyman; activities lead by Prof. Horton Newsom and his UNM students; and Vesta gazing with The Albuquerque Astronomical Society!
- Borealis Astronomical Society in Cluj-Napoca, Romania: "We mark the beginning of Dawn's exploration of Vesta by hosting an open-air star party dedicated to the asteroid!"
- The Carey Junior High School Society of Student Astronomers, Cheyenne, WY: GO KIDS!
- **And last but not least...**

Vesta Fiesta Pasadena! A whole team of Dawn and NASA Discovery Program scientists and educators will rock mission science with activities for the whole family, like...

- ✓ [Asteroid Mystery Boxes](#) and [Relay to Vesta](#),
- ✓ NASA's *Eyes on the Solar System* and other cool Discovery Program mission wonders,
- ✓ Dr. Claudia Alexander cooking up a kitchen comet,
- ✓ Dawn Mission Science Presentations [streamed live!](#)

We'd love to see you at one of the Fiestas!

- Find a party near you on our [interactive map](#).
- It's not too late - plan your own backyard [Vesta Fiesta!](#)
 - ✓ [Games and Activities](#)
 - ✓ [Resources](#)
 - ✓ [Speaker's Kit](#)

Hosting a fiesta already? Take pictures! Tell stories! [Send them](#) to us; we will be posting soon!

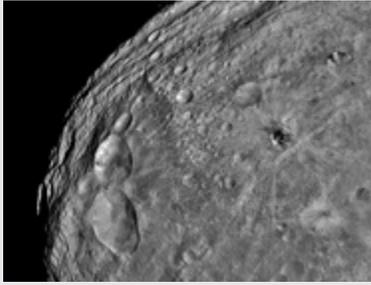


MISSION UPDATE

GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER TO VESTA!

MISSION STATUS

Dawn Completes Spiraling to Survey Orbit



Vesta's series of craters, affectionately known as "Snowman" Image credit: NASA/JPL/UCLA

August 2, 2011

Today Dawn completed the ion thrusting needed to reach its first science orbit. Now the operations team will refine measurements of its orbit and use that information to make final adjustments to the timing and other details of the commands the spacecraft will follow when it begins survey orbit observations on August 11.

On July 31, it paused thrusting to collect more images of Vesta.

Dawn is about 2700 kilometers (1700 miles) from Vesta.

- Listen to [NASA's August 1, 2011 news conference](#) and share in the thrilling mission science!
- Get a close look at Dawn's fascinating [images of Vesta](#).
- Trace Dawn's journey since launch through its monthly (now weekly!) [mission updates](#).

FOLLOW DAWN!

Get on-the-minute mission and science updates during this exciting year as Dawn zips along in its trajectory to Vesta in the main asteroid belt! Follow the Dawn Mission on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and our [RSS Feed](#).



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK, FORWARD OUR NEWS, SUBSCRIBE!

The Dawn Education and Public Outreach team is continually seeking ways to improve the mission website and is eager to receive your feedback. Please share your thoughts by completing [a brief survey](#).

Please feel free to forward this e-mail to others interested in NASA missions. We welcome new subscribers! Visit the [Dawn E-News](#) page to sign up for the [Dawn E-News RSS feed](#) or to join the Dawn mission E-News mailing list.

Dawn Mission Outreach E-News features information about the mission, its outreach website, and products, services, and materials available from the Dawn Education and Public Outreach (E/PO) team. Dawn is the ninth Discovery mission in NASA's Science Mission Directorate and is a collaborative partnership made up of the University of California, Los Angeles; Jet Propulsion Laboratory; Orbital Sciences Corporation; Los Alamos National Laboratory; German Aerospace Center; Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research; Italian Space Agency; and Italian National Institute of Astrophysics. Dawn outreach materials are developed under contract by Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL), Denver, CO.

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