

ASSA: ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY SECTION ANNUAL REPORT (2023-2024)

THE CURRENT STATE OF ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY AND IMAGING

The Astrophotography Section's Goal is to coordinate and promote astronomical imaging technology and gather images created by amateur astronomers. In recent years, more amateur astronomers from Southern Africa have been contributing to collecting and providing data to professional astronomers worldwide using their imaging equipment. The quality of artistic astronomical images produced by both professional and amateur photographers in Southern Africa is steadily improving.

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

As our members are participating in more international astrophotography competitions, Tiaan Niemand was "short-listed" in the Optolong Astrophotography Competition.

MEMBER ACTIVITY

The Astrophotography Section continues to encourage the submission of photographic images to the image archive on Flickr. We link to the photos on the ASSA website in the Gallery section, categorised by photographer and subject. We only accept submissions from Southern African photographers or images captured in Southern Africa. We do not require the photographer to be an ASSA member, nor do we refuse photo submissions based on quality. The main aim is to promote and encourage the art of Astrophotography.

INITIATIVES

Images submitted to the ASSA Flickr Gallery are eligible for publication in the ASSA Sky Guide.

The 2024 ASSA Astrophotography Competition

The "2024 ASSA Astrophotography Competition" is sponsored by Celestron and Sky-Watcher. The sponsors have been extremely generous with the Prizes. The winners will be announced on 21 September 2024. The top 3 entries will feature in the Sky Guide and other media.

SECTION DIRECTOR

The current Section Director is Martin Heigan.