The background of the entire page is a night sky filled with stars. In the lower portion, there is a silhouette of a group of five people standing on a grassy hill. They are all looking up at the sky, with some pointing and others having their arms raised in a gesture of awe or excitement. To the left of the group, there is a large, dark silhouette of a tree. The overall mood is one of wonder and discovery.

Learn more
about the

International Astronomical Youth Camp (IAYC)

Bringing astronomy and culture together since 1969



Welcome!

Dear Prospective Sponsor,

Welcome to the **International Astronomical Youth Camp (IAYC)**!

My name is Carys Herbert and as president of the International Workshop for Astronomy, I am excited to invite you to become an **official sponsor** of the IAYC.

Since 1969, the IAYC has united young people from around the world through their shared passion for astronomy. Over the decades, the camp has inspired participants to pursue studies and careers in STEM, leaving a **lasting impact** that reaches far beyond the camp itself.

Today, we are committed to making the IAYC even more **impactful and inclusive**. With your support, we can continue to expand opportunities for young people and ensure that **future generations** have access to this unique experience. We offer a range of sponsorship packages and are always happy to create **custom solutions** that align with your organisation's goals and values.

This booklet will guide you through the **history and mission of the IAYC**, the reasons we are building partnerships with sponsors, and the many ways you can get involved. To learn more please read this booklet, visit iayc.org, and feel free to contact me directly at sponsorship@iayc.org.

Thank you for considering a partnership with the IAYC. We look forward to collaborating with you soon!



Clear skies,

Carys Herbert
President IWA e.V.

About the IAYC

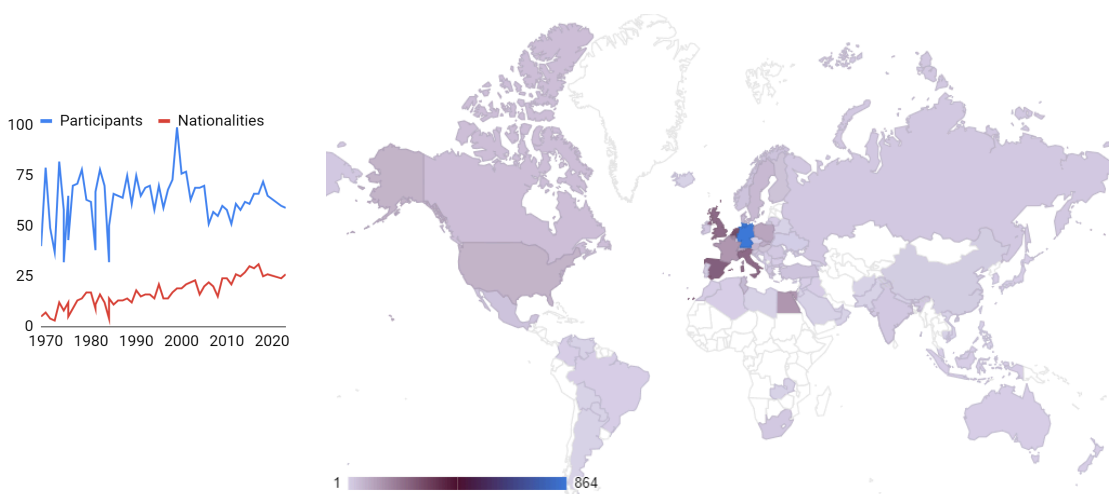
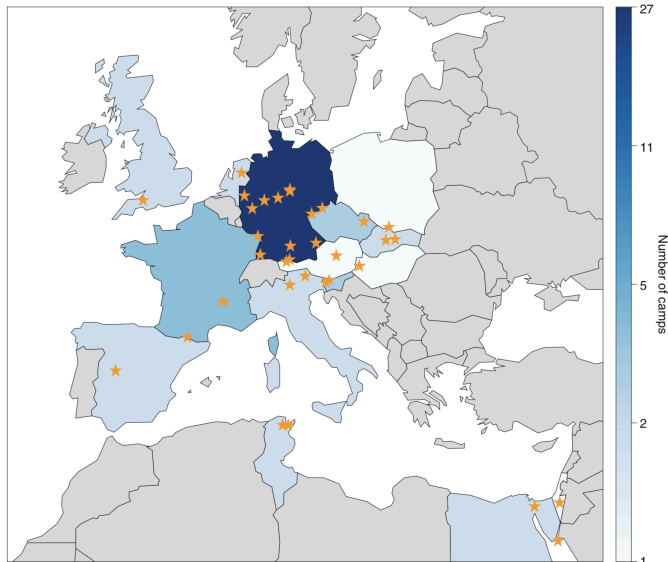
The International Astronomical Youth Camp (IAYC) began in 1969, with the aim to bridge cultural barriers while fostering curiosity and intuition for how independent research is carried out. A passion for astronomy is the only requirement to attend.

In its 56-year history, the IAYC has been held 57 times across 17 different countries; **~2,000 young people** have participated. The camp takes place in a different country each year, and hosts ~65 people aged 16 – 24. Everyone is welcome at the camp, regardless of prior experience or academic background.

Over three weeks, participants undertake a scientific project of their choosing. The projects draw on astronomy-related topics, such as theoretical astrophysics and computer simulations; data analysis and machine learning; designing and engineering electronic equipment; and historical and cultural astronomy. Results are written in LaTeX and disseminated to all participants in the form of a high quality report book. By night, participants take advantage of the dark skies and become proficient with using telescopes and observing astrophysical phenomena.

Organised by a German non-profit, the International Workshop for Astronomy e.V. (IWA) was established in 1979. Its members have all led working groups at the IAYC — leaders are typically Master or PhD-level researchers. The current statutes of IWA list two aims:

- *Promotion of international collaboration and agreement, particularly for astronomical youth work;*
- *To spread astronomical knowledge and teach young people to work scientifically on their own.*



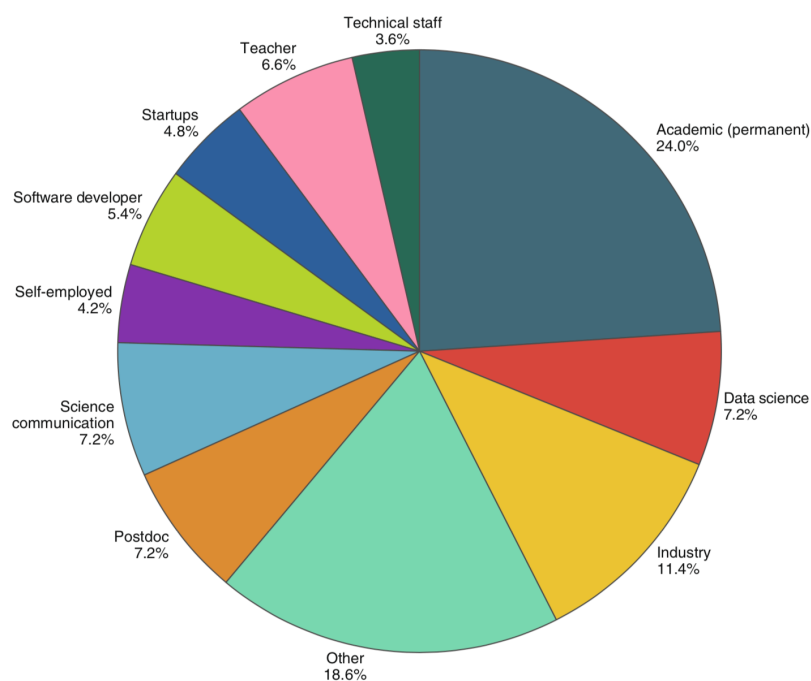
IWA e.V. is a voluntary association (eingetragener Verein) registered at the Amtsgericht Frankfurt (Oder) under registration number VR 6910.
c/o Wanda Witte, Egon-Erwin-Kisch-Str. 21, 15537 Grünheide.

Impact & Communication

"The IAYC showed me it was possible to pursue astronomy and astrophysics and make a career out of it. I didn't really realise I could just do this very specific area of physics with my life. A career in astronomy/astrophysics seemed possible after my first camp."

"For [me] the international, gender-balanced character of the camp was a real eye opener. It made me look beyond my narrow 18 year old horizon. The world opened for me. This feeling of being a global citizen capable of becoming a scientist came straight from the IAYC. The camp gave me the confidence I needed to pursue an international career in science."

In order to better assess the impact of the IAYC over the past five decades, we at IWA carried out a survey. 300+ previous participants took part, and the results were published in [Nature Astronomy](#) in 2019. 24% of respondents are studying or working in astrophysics, with an additional 45% working in other STEM fields. In terms of careers, participants found employment across a broad range of roles, ~30% of which are related to tech and industry. Our work has been recognised internationally, selected as a Finalist of [Falling Walls Engage 2022](#).



The IAYC doesn't end when participants reach 24; our **very active community includes many of the world's current and future leaders.**

Reunions are held several times a year across the globe, as well as reunion camps which occur once a decade. Previous participants receive news via the IAYC Astroletter (~350 people).

IWA also maintains a public [Facebook page](#) (1,800 followers), an [Instagram](#) account (~1000 followers), and a growing presence on [Bluesky](#) (~200 followers).



Diversity

"I am one of eight children... None of my siblings went to college from school. My trip to the IAYC, sponsored by a national scientific organisation, confirmed and inspired my love of astrophysics, making me determined to pursue it as a career. I subsequently completed an undergraduate degree, Masters and a PhD in mathematics, with a specialty in general relativity."

"The camp prepared me well for college, taught and motivated me to gain new skills, gave me confidence in science, as well as a strong belief that I can be a successful female physicist."

Celebrating diversity is deeply embedded in the culture of the camp. Every year, participants share their culture during national evenings, and we also have a diversity day. We are particularly proud of the fact that the IAYC has been gender balanced for 15 years, uncommon for scientific outreach events. Always looking to improve, we are working actively to increase representation from other minority groups in science.

IWA is dedicated to making the IAYC accessible to all, partially achieved by ensuring the camp fee is as low as possible. We also raise money for grants, predominantly funded by IWA members and previous participants. This fund allows us to support around eight participants each year, although demand is approximately seven times greater.

IWA depends on grants and sponsors to help keep the participation fee low. We invite you to support the IAYC to ensure the future of the camp and the training of the next generation of leaders and scientists.

Support Us

Join us in our efforts to enthuse, inspire, and cultivate the scientists of the future. Several options are available, or please get in touch if you have something else in mind.

Donations. It is easy to make a donation to IWA. Your donation will go towards the general running of the camp (e.g. buying astronomical equipment, covering the costs of our volunteers, keeping the camp fee low, etc.) Please donate via [Paypal](#), [Donorbox](#), or contact us [via email](#) and we can provide you with our bank details or an invoice. All donating bodies will be listed on our website, which receives **3000+ visits each month**.



Sponsorship. All sponsors will be listed on the **IAYC website (3000+ visits each month)**, in addition to the report book. You will also be mentioned during the opening ceremony of the camp.

Social media. A dedicated post on our FB, Bluesky, and Instagram. We currently have **~3000 followers** across all platforms, with excellent engagement €100

Report book. Printed in A5 each year and distributed to ~75 people. Your logo will be featured at the beginning of the book (max. six logos). €400

IAYC Astroletter. All future newsletters will feature your logo for one year, shared with **~350 subscribers**. We can also introduce your organisation for an extra €100 (max. five logos). €500

Info stand/banner. We will put up an information stand in our activity/social room for the entire three weeks of the camp, provided by you (max. four). €500

Leaflets/brochures. We will give out any PR material you provide at the camp. €500

Participant. Sponsor a participant to attend, in your company's name. We will allocate this to a participant who has successfully applied to our grant fund. Extra funds are welcome to support the participant's travel costs. €1130

Camp T-shirt. The IAYC T-shirt is designed by IWA each year and worn by **~75 people across the world for years to come!** Your logo will be featured on the back (max. four logos). €1200

Workshop. We will come to you! We will send one of our professionals to provide talks, hands-on activities, team building exercises, stargazing and more. Cost depends on the location and duration of the event. €2000+

Equipment. We welcome astronomical and technical equipment, e.g. telescopes, eyepieces, spectrographs, dark room materials, software, laptops. We are grateful for other material, specific to working groups. We can also test and review equipment.

Other. If you have your own ideas about supporting the IAYC, we are very happy to discuss these with you. Email us and we can organise a call!

Who We Are



The International Workshop for Astronomy (IWA) e.V. was established in Germany in 1979. An e.V. is a legal status for a registered voluntary association, and is defined as being a legal entity separate from its members.

IWA e.V. members have all led working groups at the IAYC, and are typically Master or PhD-level researchers. IWA e.V. is made up of ~15 active members from across the world. The current board includes:



President

Dr Carys Herbert
Planetarium Presenter
United Kingdom



Vice President

Ruurd Kuipers
Instrument Engineer
Norway



Executive Administrator

Joris Witte
Student
Germany

Thank you very much for taking the time to learn about the IAYC. Please do not hesitate to [contact us](#) if you have any further questions.

*IWA e.V. is a voluntary association (eingetragener Verein) registered at the Amtsgericht Frankfurt (Oder) under registration number VR 6910.
c/o Wanda Witte, Egon-Erwin-Kisch-Str. 21, 15537 Grünheide.*

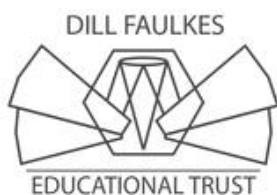


The other members include:

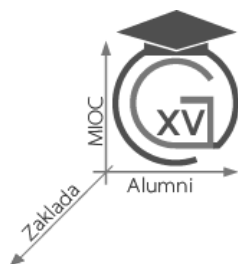
- Dr Hannah Dalgleish (R&D Fellow at University of Southampton)
- Dr Daniel Mortimer (postdoc at Max Planck Institute for Astronomy)
- Dr Eva Maria-Ahrer (postdoc at Max Planck Institute for Astronomy)
- Dr Josh Veitch-Michaelis (postdoc at ETH Zürich)
- Dr Nikki Miller (postdoc at Uppsala University)
- Dr Aitor Aldama Campino (postdoc at Stockholm University)
- Dr Andrés Lopez Moreno (postdoc at LAPP in the DUNE experiment)
- Dr Javier Barrios Martí (senior data scientist at GDS MODELLICA, S.L.)
- Dr Melanie Archipley (postdoc University of Illinois)
- Dr Elizabeth Mondragon Cortes (postdoc at Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics)

Thank you very much for taking the time to learn about the IAYC. Please do not hesitate to [contact us](#) if you have any further questions.

Our current sponsors are:



**WILHELM UND ELSE
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