

# Oregon school will be among first to reveal new NASA telescope images

By SHANE HOFFMANN  
Oregon Capital Bureau

WILSONVILLE — An Oregon school will join hundreds of sites across the nation in celebrating the release of the first images from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope — the most technologically advanced of its kind — at a July 12 event.

The event is slated for 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 12 at Oregon Charter Academy in Wilsonville is open in person to the first 100 registrants and then first 1,000 virtual registrants as well. Those wishing to register can do so at [oregoncharter.org/jameswebb](http://oregoncharter.org/jameswebb).

After the telescope mission took off on Dec. 25, 2021, it recently reached its destination nearly 1 million miles from Earth.

The technology utilized by the telescope allows for the universe to be viewed in infrared and will help give insight into the formation of the universe through the study of light.

The July 12 event includes a showing of the recorded NASA broadcast, which highlights the first batch of five images from the tele-



Bill Ingalls/NASA

The James Webb Space Telescope launches in December 2021. The Oregon Charter Academy in Wilsonville and Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Portland are among the sites showing the telescope's first images on Tuesday, July 12, 2022.

scope and a slideshow featuring information about the telescope and its purpose. Also featured is a Q&A with experts from NASA

and an appearance from the University of Oregon's physics department. The department will send members to the event and assist attendees

in using special-lensed telescopes, which allow individuals to look directly at the sun.

The charter academy is the only school and one of just

seven organizations statewide to be selected to participate in the viewing. Dan Vasen, the principal of the academy's STEM programs and champion of the school's NASA club, said the school learned of the opportunity through the NASA Express newsletter and applied to be one of the organizations to showcase the images.

"Igniting interest in STEM is imperative to ORCA," Vasen said in a statement. "Providing special opportunities through events like these can stimulate the type of learning that creates passion, while at the same time helping students process classroom topics and their relevance to real world applications."

One of the academy's chief focuses is presenting students with opportunities through enrichment programs such as its three-year-old NASA club, which hosts monthly live streams from NASA space centers to students. The club also provides virtual-reality experiences. In February, a group of nearly 100 academy students and staff watched the Webb Telescope as it reached its final destination.

"The NASA club is just

one of the many STEM programs at ORCA," Vasen said. "In an effort to take remote learning to the next level, we'll be partnering with more space centers next year to increase the number of virtual events and the scope of educational enrichment materials provided to ORCA students."

## Other events planned in Oregon

Additional organizations in Oregon will be holding activities around the Webb Telescope throughout the summer. Here are a description of two, taken from their websites:

July 12: OMSI (Portland): View the first images from the telescope with a live expert NASA panel live via satellite on NASA TV in the planetarium and auditorium beginning at 7:00 a.m. with the first images scheduled at 7:30 a.m. and other events during the day.

July 30: Science Works Hands-On Museum (Ashland): This event will feature James Webb exhibits and hands-on projects.

To learn more about the Webb telescope, visit [webb.nasa.gov](http://webb.nasa.gov).

# Richard Etulain's biography of Mark Hatfield highlights early years

By PETER WONG  
Oregon Capital Bureau

CLACKAMAS — Had Richard Etulain graduated four years after he entered Northwest Nazarene College, he would have heard a 36-year-old Mark Hatfield speak at the commencement ceremony in May 1959.

But Etulain took an extra year to obtain a bachelor's degree from what is now a university in Nampa, Idaho. He was pursuing an Oregon dairyman's daughter who would later become his wife. So he did not hear Hatfield, then and now the youngest person ever

elected governor of Oregon.

That changed during his six years in graduate work at the University of Oregon, where Etulain earned a master's in American literature in 1962 and a doctorate in American literature and history in 1966. He was able to vote for Hatfield's reelection as governor in 1962 and Hatfield's nomination for U.S. senator in the 1996 Republican primary. But he left Oregon before Hatfield won the first of five terms in the Senate that fall.

Etulain, now 83, calls himself a lifelong Democrat. "But I fell in love with

Mark Hatfield's style," he said. "I saw him as a person who could work across the aisle."

Etulain and his wife, Joyce, a retired children's librarian, live in Clackamas. His academic career took him back to his alma mater, then Idaho State University, and the University of New Mexico, where he directed the Center for the American West. He is the author or editor of more than 60 books, including Abraham Lincoln and Civil War politics in the Northwest, and William S. U'Ren, father of the Oregon System of the initiative,

referendum and recall.

Etulain also is the author of "Mark O. Hatfield: Oregon Statesman," the first biography since the former Oregon governor and senator died in 2011 at the age of 89. It was published in 2021, but the impending centennial of Hatfield's birth gives it more import.

The book focuses on Hatfield's early years and the governorship — Hatfield was the first Oregon governor in the 20th century to serve two full terms, from 1959 until he became a senator in 1967 — but only summarizes (in 30 pages)

his 30 years in the Senate.

Etulain said Hatfield's Senate papers, which are housed in the library that bears his name at Willamette University in Salem, are scheduled to be open to researchers on the 100th anniversary of Hatfield's birth on Tuesday, July 12.

Etulain does not gloss over Hatfield's failings, but says his is "a sympathetic biography."

"Even after I make allowance for his mistakes and where I disagree with his conclusions, I think him a role model for politicians," he wrote in the preface.

Though Hatfield wrote a book a decade before his death — "Against the Grain: Confessions of a Rebel Republican," published in 2001 — he also said he felt he was not the best judge of his place in history.

Other than his 93-year-old widow, Antoinette, most of those in Hatfield's early political circle have died. The most recent on March 13 was Gerry Frank of Salem, the one-time department store owner who led Hatfield's 1966 Senate campaign and was his Senate chief of staff and special assistant from 1967 to 1992. Frank was 98.

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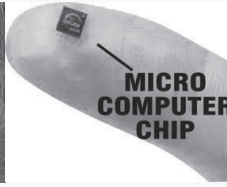
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