

NASA/HEAT Rice U Status Report – February 2023

Patricia H. Reiff, Rice University

- ***Eclipse Animations***

We continue to provide downloads of our eclipse animations paid for by NASA. Nine additional planetariums requested the animations in February. Zip Codes: 33132, 91109 (JPL), 23328, 08816, 75149, 68787 plus Canada, UK, and Italy. Because each planetarium reaches thousands of users, the total number of people touched by the 91 downloads so far is in the tens of thousands.

- ***Totality! Planetarium show***

Our planetarium show “Totality!” based on these animations and more is in its final stages of development. Funding for the completion of the show is provided by the Houston Museum of Natural Science and ePlanetarium, which will distribute the show.

- ***Space Science Educators Conference***

Carlton Colmenares and Dr. Reiff made a presentation to 25 teachers at the SEEC Conference on February 10. Unfortunately the workshop was on a nearby campus so some of the teachers were not able to make it. Safe solar viewing equipment was demonstrated and classroom packs of eclipse glasses and maps of the eclipse path were given to all participants. Materials were posted to the SEEC website so that all could download, not just the ones who came to the workshop.



- ***Eclipse planning***

Reiff continues to work with the AAS eclipse planning committees (formal science, informal science and regional planning). She is planning a major eclipse event sponsored by Rice University for the total eclipse in April 2024. We are conducting a major increase in our eclipse website <http://space.rice.edu/eclipse> to include links to many resources (NASA, AAS, and others) plus activities, equipment suggestions, and games.

- ***Eclipse planning for Schools***

Carlton Colmenares, candidate for the Master of Science Teaching degree, has a first draft of a handout for schools to plan for the eclipses as part of his Capstone project.

- *Citizen CATE*

We have have been approached by Citizen CATE to work with their eclipse photography network program as regional director. More details to come.