**Why Do We Do It?**
- To provide a fun and open experience to people of all ages, by showing that science can be an active, engaging, and creative process
- To spark an interest in physics and astronomy in middle and high school students in particular
- To provide others a chance to meet with scientists to discuss physics and astronomy and get any science related questions answered
- To show that science is a viable career path filled with diverse individuals
- To nurture a sense of wonder and awe at the Universe
- To teach basic astronomy concepts and problem-solving skills
- To empower people to be curious and to ask questions
- We expect to produce a significant impact on K-12 students in general, and in particular on the home-school kids (~20% in the Harrisonburg/Rockingham County)

**What Happens There? We and the Audience**
- Conduct observations of solar activity with a Coronado telescope equipped with a safe Hα filter, a sunspotter, and handheld (Project Star) spectrometers
- Investigate the out-gassing properties of comets by building, cooking, and eating your own edible 'comets'
- Perform simple demonstrations which illustrate the physics of conservation of angular momentum and supernovae explosions
- Make asteroids and craters to test how different impactors affect crater formation
- To open a dialogue, Team Awestromony members wear signs or t-shirts with simple messages such as "Ask me about black holes" or "...about Big Bang" to encourage our audience to ask questions.

**How?**
- 9:00 am: Meeting in the Astronomy Lab
- 9:30 am: Loading up supplies in the departmental van
- 10:00 am: Setting up the Science Corner at the Harrisonburg Farmer’s Market
- 12:30 pm: Take down our corner, pack up, and then head to lunch!

**Where?**
- Off campus, near campus at the Harrisonburg Farmers Market

**Who is Team Awestromony?**
- Robert Roten, Senior
  - Decade-long variability of the broad-line region in nearby active galactic nuclei
- Emil Christensen, Senior
  - Statistical analysis of spectroscopic properties of galaxy centers 
  - Poster: 150.27 AGN, QSO, Blazars
- Emily Dick, Sophomore
  - WISE search for properties of maser and non-maser galaxies
  - Poster: 150.24 AGN, QSO, Blazars
- Andrew Nutter, Senior
  - X-ray activity of galaxies hosting water maser activity
  - Poster: 251.09 AGN, QSO, Blazars
- Josiah Lapolla, Sophomore
  - Multiwavelength studies of void galaxies
- Gregory Hutchins, Junior
  - Particle physics with Jefferson Lab experiments
- Seth Heerschap, Junior
  - Honors program, particle physics with hodoscope measurements at Jefferson Lab

**Current Members**
- Robert Roten, Senior
- Josiah Lapolla, Senior
- Kyle Eskridge, Sophomore
- Anthony Saikin, Sophomore
- James Corcoran, Class of 2012
- Nathan DiDomenico, Class of 2012
- Andrew Nutter, Senior
- Emil Christensen, Senior
- Constantin Lapolla, Sophomore
- Andrew Nutter, Senior
- Josiah Lapolla, Sophomore
- Multiwavelength studies of void galaxies
- Gregory Hutchins, Junior
- Particle physics with Jefferson Lab experiments
- Seth Heerschap, Junior
- Honors program, particle physics with hodoscope measurements at Jefferson Lab

**Group Alumni**
- James Corcoran, Class of 2012
  - Analysis of the role of galactic morphology on water megamaser emission
- Nathan DiDomenico, Class of 2012
  - Understanding the optical properties of galaxies hosting water megamaser emission
- Anthony Saikin, Class of 2012
  - Investigations of binary stars with new observations from Lick Observatory
- Kyle Eskridge, Class of 2012
  - Theoretical modeling of molecular lines associated with star forming regions

**Faculty**
- Anca Constantin
  - Multiwavelength observations of quasars and nearby low luminosity AGNs

**What do we do?**
- We evaluate the success of our program and its impact on the community by monitoring the number of ‘likes’ on our Facebook page, the number of people who attend our events at the Farmer’s Market and those hosted by the Department of Physics and Astronomy, as well as enrollment in local high school physics courses along with JMU freshmen enrollment originating from local high school students.

**How?**
- Post weekly updates about astronomy related news
- Announce and remind our followers of future events
- Post photographs and videos of each of our events
- Connect to our community and reach a larger audience to receive feedback on how to improve our events
- Provide an open space to get astronomy and science related questions answered
- Advertise and invite our followers to free JMU Planetarium shows on Saturdays and star parties hosted by the Department of Physics and Astronomy

**When does it happen?**
- Four times per semester on the last Saturday of each month (Weather permitting)

**Check out our videos at:** http://csma31.csm.jmu.edu/physics/constaax/outreach.html