



W. M. KECK OBSERVATORY

Maunakea, Island of Hawai'i

December 2020

Aloha,

I want to take this opportunity to wish the happiest of holidays to our Keck Family of Donors and Supporters. On behalf of the W. M. Keck Observatory's staff members and community of astronomers, *Thank You* for your support of our mission during the past year and in previous years.

It's an understatement to say that 2020 has been a challenging year for all of us. Our daily lives have been upended, and we've had to adjust to one "New Normal" after another. Our work at the Keck Observatory has been no less challenging - but through the dedication of our staff, the tireless curiosity of our observers, and the support of our constituents, we've carried out a most productive year as we've continued to stay "On Sky" with our observing schedule. New science - and a Nobel Prize in Physics for one of our Keck astronomers, Andrea Ghez - has been our reward.

Next year promises to be a banner year for the Keck Observatory. We will welcome our newest instrument, the Keck Cosmic Reionization Mapper (KCRM). Progress will continue on our next instrument, the Keck Planet Finder, slated for delivery to the observatory in early 2022. And we'll add a powerful new upgrade to one of our most used instruments, NIRSPEC, in the form of a Laser Frequency Comb - allowing NIRSPEC to join our growing number of instruments used for exoplanet studies.

All of these instruments are coming to Keck Observatory because of the support of our donors. I cannot emphasize enough how important philanthropy is in powering the mission of the observatory. Your gifts equate to Great Science.

To those of you who have made a recent year end gift to Keck, I offer my thanks. To those of you perhaps considering a gift, please call Joan at 808-881-3854 or make your gift online at <https://www.keckobservatory.org/donate/>.

Thank you again for coming along with us on our fantastic Voyage of Discovery. I hope to see you at one of our Zoom astronomy talks soon!

Best Wishes for a Wonderful Holiday Season,

Dr. John O'Meara
Chief Scientist



Happy Holidays from your Keck Observatory Family!