

Historical Astronomers Research & Presentation Project

Students will sign up (in pairs or solo) at the beginning of the year to be responsible for researching and presenting on a significant figure in astronomy. The presentations will take place throughout the year, when the topics covered are most appropriate to that scientist.

The presentation should be submitted to Ms. Earnhart via **DROPitTome** any time before the beginning of class on the day the presentation will take place. It must be in Microsoft Power Point (PPT) or PDF format only, no Google Slides are accepted. *If you create your presentation in Google Slides first, be careful of formatting glitches that occur when converting to PPT or PDF.*

Presentation Requirements:

- Between 5 and 10 minutes in length. Students should share speaking responsibilities, and demonstrate a deep understanding of the material. Speaking notes are allowed, but should not be relied upon heavily. Students who clearly “tagged along” and did not become experts on their topic will lose points.
- Include many images and visual references (and videos when possible!) of both the astronomer *and* the relevant subjects that tie the astronomer to the current unit of study.
- Do not have slides FULL of text – use bullet points and small paragraphs. Never have a slide without at least some small visual. Make your slides look professional and neat.
- The last slide should be a well-formatted bibliography of sources used (information AND media!)
- All text throughout the presentation must be original – **DO NOT SIMPLY COPY AND PASTE FROM ELECTRONIC SOURCES because that’s what plagiarism is.**

Organize your presentation into 4 major sections:

(1) Provide a complete biography of the astronomer. When and where did they live? What was their family life like? What was their personality like? Include stories and anecdotes of the person to allow us to “get to know” this astronomer as a real individual.

(2) Explain the astronomer’s contributions to the field of astronomy. What did they do and how did they do it? Take time to explain the science behind what they did, and *relate it to our current unit of study*.

(3) Describe the state of astronomy at that point in history. Provide a historical context in which this astronomer worked and lived. What was known and unknown at the time? Help us to understand why this astronomer’s achievements were so relevant and/or revolutionary.

(4) Highlight the astronomer’s cultural and historical legacy in astronomy. How are they remembered today? Do they have things named after them (like craters, space probes, telescopes, schools, etc.)? Do they have a different reputation in historical retrospect than they did while alive? Tell us why it’s important to remember this astronomer.

Astronomer	Unit	Class 1A	Class 2A
Ptolemy	1	Brian. G	Erik R.
Eratosthenes	1	Jared R. Daniel K.	Cristian Q. Ardith A.
Copernicus	1	Emma M. Isabelle D.	Kelly K.
William & Caroline Herschel	4	Daniel W Alan Z.	Nir R.
Maria Mitchell	4	Sam B. Emma G.	Parker L. Avani S.
Tycho Brahe	5	Zach S. Charles A.	Aaliyah T. Andrew H.
Johannes Kepler	5	Eliza F. Roxy B.	Shawn L. Austin B
Stephen Hawking	5	Karina G. Daniel G.	Antonio B. Collin D.
Galileo	6	Sameer P. Abe H	Gloria M. Alex K.
Carl Sagan	6	Kyle M Henry H.	Corey C-L Kiran T.
Neil Degrasse-Tyson	6	Robbie R. Ian G.	Emma S. David W.
Annie Jump Cannon	8	Zoe W. Jackson R.	Madeleine R. Teague H.
Henrietta Swan Leavitt	8	Aidan. W Elliot T.	Manuel R.
Edwin Hubble	8	Riley P. Kate P.	Brayan D. Harrison T.
Margaret Hamilton	10	Sofia E. Guadalupe L.	Mihir K. Harrison L.
Wernher von Braun	10	Ian S. Sam A.	Caitlin T. Keenan R.