Slooh to Broadcast the Lyrid Meteor Shower Live

On the night of April 21st, the Lyrid Meteor Shower will be nearing its peak. Slooh will provide live coverage all night starting at 5 PM PDT / 8 PM EDT / 00 UTC (4/22) - International Times: http://goo.gl/5J5wYp. Viewers can watch free on Slooh.com or by downloading the Slooh iPad app. The live image stream from North America will be accompanied by expert audio from Slooh astronomer Bob Berman.

The Lyrid meteor shower appears in the night sky every year beginning around April 16th and ending on April 26th, and it will appear to stream directly from the bright star Vega located in the constellation Lyra. Despite this apparent association, the source of the meteors is actually from Comet Thatcher (C/1861 G1) which leaves behind a trail of debris that Earth passes through every April. The Lyrids have been observed for almost 2600 years - Chinese astronomers were the first to record witnessing the Lyrid meteor shower in 687 B.C.

Berman says, “This is not one of the top meteor showers of the year like the Perseids and the Geminids, still the Lyrids produce around 20 meteors an hour, and they are moderately fast - coming in at 110,000 miles per hour. That's about 30 miles per second, which is nearly 60 times faster than a rifle bullet.”

Broadcast Details:

Start time: April 21st at 5 PM PDT / 8 PM EDT / 00 UTC (4/22)
Link: www.slooh.com
Hashtag: #Lyrids
Embed: <iframe width="1280" height="720"
src="//www.youtube.com/embed/akSdvKvW8DM" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe>

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We own all copyright rights in the text, images, photographs, video, audio, graphics, user interface, and other content provided on Slooh live broadcasts. At times, we may include additional content from NASA or other official partners to help explain what’s happening in the live image feed. A Slooh watermark will be included on our live feed. Slooh may run a house ad prior, during, or after any broadcast to highlight the Slooh cooperative and/or iPad app program. You may embed our feeds into your coverage so long as courtesy of Slooh is located next to the feed with a link back to www.slooh.com. You may not alter or modify our broadcast in any way, unless provided with written permission to do so.

About Slooh

Since 2003 Slooh has connected ground-based telescopes to the Internet for access by the broader public. Slooh members have taken over 2.4m photos of over 40,000 celestial objects, and participated in numerous discoveries with leading astronomical institutions. Slooh’s automated observatories develop celestial images in real-time for broadcast to the Internet. Slooh’s technology is protected by Patent No.: US 7,194,146 B2 which was awarded in 2006. Slooh’s flagship observatory is situated on Mt. Teide in the Canary Islands, in partnership with the Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands (IAC). Slooh has also broadcast live celestial events from partner observatories in Arizona, Japan, Hawaii, Cypress, Dubai, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Norway. Slooh’s free live broadcasts of potentially hazardous asteroids (PHAs), comets, transits, eclipses, solar activity etc. feature narration by astronomy experts Bob Berman and Paul Cox and are syndicated to media outlets such as NBC, ABC, CNN, Fox News, National Geographic, the BBC, Wired, The Weather Channel and more. Slooh’s live celestial events have been viewed over a billion times, the highlight of which was the 2011 lunar eclipse broadcast live on Google’s home page.

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