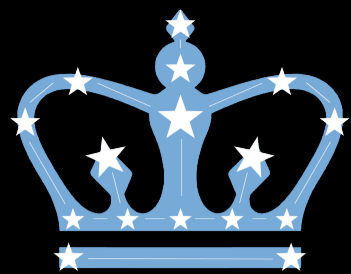


COLUMBIA ASTRONOMY OUTREACH PRESENTS:



STARGAZING & LECTURE SERIES

Ripples in Spacetime: When Black Holes Merge

Jillian Bellovary

Friday, February 19th, 7:00PM

Pupin Hall, Columbia University

Gravitational waves... what the heck are they? Predicted by Einstein in 1916, we have just directly observed these exotic ripples in space-time for the first time! I'll discuss the ways to make gravitational waves (think giant explosions and merging black holes!), why they are so hard to measure, and the weird contraptions we have built (and plan to build) to prove their existence.

These are free lectures at a public level followed by guided stargazing with telescopes (weather permitting). All events are held at Pupin Hall at Columbia University. No reservations are needed. Lectures are 30 minutes, stargazing lasts 90 minutes. Stay only as long as you want.

For directions, weather updates and more information, please visit:

<http://outreach.astro.columbia.edu>