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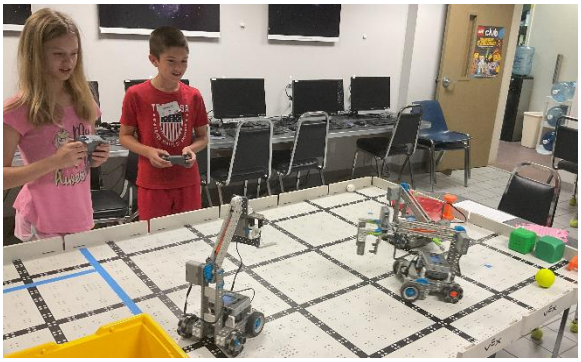
November 2026

Dear Friends of Kopernik Observatory & Science Center,

As we approach the close of another remarkable year at Kopernik, I reflect on the curiosity, creativity and community that filled our classrooms and observatory in 2026. **Thanks to investments from friends like you,** we were able to welcome thousands of students of all ages here on the hill - from our youngest KoperniKids, to school-age summer camp attendees, to adult learners at our Friday Night programs.

As you know, KOSC offers hands-on (and minds-on!) educational experiences rooted in **S**cience-**Te**chnology-**E**ngineering-**M**athematics (STEM), and each aims to spark our students' imaginations and sense of wonder.

Your support this past year allowed students to:



Build, program and refine robotic vehicles to perform various tasks (and yes, do battle).



Don virtual reality (VR) headsets to pilot their spacecraft through the solar system and beyond!



Build, paint and launch their own rockets.



Launch and recover a weather balloon payload.

And so much more!

Of course, there were plenty of opportunities to explore the marvels of the night sky through our research-grade telescopes, too.



Other 2026 accomplishments we're particularly proud of:

- We significantly increased our school programming over previous years.
- Welcomed record numbers of students to our summer camps.
- Grew our YouTube channel to over 14,000 subscribers from across the globe.

Every moment of awe, every breakthrough, every "I get it!" that happened at KOSC this year is tied directly to *you* and the community members who support the power of science education.

Your yearly or on-going contributions keep KOSC programming funded, provide scholarships for students in need, upgrade equipment, and maintain our regular expenses and building upkeep.

If you've already given this year, thank you. If not, we hope you'll consider making a tax-deductible year-end gift of any size. Should you be at a point in life where you must take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) or are considering a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your retirement account(s), please consider Kopernik as a recipient of those distributions. KOSC also welcomes legacy gifts connected to wills, bequests and/or memorial gifts for loved ones.

Your continued support ensures more than just our day-to-day operations. You also position us to grow in the coming years. **Though we're not ready to share details just yet, we have plans to meet the next 50 years with an expanded and refreshed campus.** We look forward to sharing more details in 2027.

Together, we'll inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and explorers and continue to promote life-long learning in the Southern Tier. Thank you for being part of our mission. We invite you to **Look Up … and Dream Big.**

With gratitude,



Andrew Deskur
Executive Director
Kopernik Observatory & Science Center



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