MUNAZZA K. ALAM

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Observations of exoplanet atmospheres, host star elemental abundances, planet formation and evolution

EDUCATION

Harvard University 2016−2021 (expected)
Ph.D., Astronomy and Astrophysics
A.M. (2018), Astronomy and Astrophysics

Macaulay Honors College at Hunter College, City University of New York (CUNY) 2012−2016
B.A., Physics and Astronomy − *Summa Cum Laude (Salutatorian)*

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

National Geographic Young Explorers Grant 2015−
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship 2017−2020
John P. and Carol J. Merrill Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University 2017
Judith and Stanley Zabar Graduate Scholarship, Hunter College 2016
John P. McNulty Scholarship, Hunter College 2014−2016
CUNY Macaulay Honors College full merit scholarship, Hunter College 2012−2016

SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

Keck Principal Investigator Data Award, NExSci for NASA 2020
Nominated as one of the **40 Women to Watch in 2019**, The Tempest 2019
Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University 2017, 2018
Awarded for teaching SPU 30 (Life as a Planetary Phenomenon), Spring 2017
Awarded for teaching AY 16 (Stellar & Planetary Astronomy), Spring 2018
Best Poster Award, IAC Winter School of Radiative Transfer in Stellar & Planetary Atmospheres 2017
Joseph A. Gillet Memorial Prize, Hunter College 2016
Award Citation: *"awarded to a member of the senior class who has, in the opinion of the department, the most thorough knowledge of general physics"*
Rosalyn S. Yalow Award, Hunter College 2016
Award Citation: *"presented to one of Hunter's finest science students"*

ACCEPTED OBSERVING PROPOSALS (AS PI)

Probing Atmospheric Escape in Young Transiting Exoplanets, Keck II/NIRSPEC 2020B semester, 1.5 nights, **PI: Alam**, Co-Is: dos Santos, Kirk, López-Morales, Ehrenreich, Bourrier, Allart, Siedel, Lovis, Livingston, King, Oklopčić, Zhou

Investigating Giant Planet Origins with Elemental Abundances of Stellar Hosts, Keck I/HIRES 2020A semester, 0.25 nights, **PI: Alam**, Co-I: López-Morales

Investigating Giant Planet Origins: Stellar Host Elemental Abundances, Magellan/MIKE 2019A, 2020A, & 2020B semesters, 6.5 nights, **PI: Alam**, Co-Is: López-Morales, Buchhave

SELECTED INVITED TALKS

Seminar University of Michigan, *A Cloud-Free Atmosphere for WASP-62b* Oct 2020
Talk NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, *A Clear Atmosphere for WASP-62b, the Only Known Gas Giant in the JWST Continuous Viewing Zone* Sept 2020
Seminar UC Berkeley & UCLA, *Characterizing Giant Planet Atmospheres with Hubblw* Sept 2020
Seminar University of Chicago, *Characterizing Giant Planet Atmospheres with Hubble and Large Ground-based Telescopes* Aug 2020

Seminar University of Exeter, *Characterizing Giant Planet Atmospheres with HST* — Aug 2020
Talk University of Hawaii Institute for Astrophysics, *Characterizing Giant Planet Atmospheres* — Feb 2020
Seminar Columbia University, *The HST PanCET Program: Characterizing the Atmospheres of Inflated Hot Jupiters* — Apr 2019
Seminar Geneva Observatory, *Precise Optical Transmission Spectra for a Hot Jupiter and a Nearby Super-Earth* — Sept 2018
Seminar Pontificia Universidad Católica, *An Optical Transmission Spectrum for WASP-52b* — Aug 2018
Talk Smithsonian Board of Regents Meeting, *Through the Looking Glass: Next Generation Telescopes and the Future of Astronomy* — Apr 2018

SELECTED CONTRIBUTED TALKS

Talk Exo-Webb Summer Series, *Evidence of a Clear Atmosphere for WASP-62b, the Only Known Transiting Gas Giant in the JWST Continuous Viewing Zone* — Jul 2020
Conference Cloud Academy I, *An Optical Transmission Spectrum for WASP-52b* — Sept 2018
Conference Exoplanets II, *An Optical Transmission Spectrum of the Inflated Hot Jupiter WASP-52b* — Jul 2018
Conference Boston Area Exoplanet Science Meeting 2, *Precise Optical Transmission Spectra for a hot Jupiter and a nearby super-Earth* — Mar 2018
Conference CfA Stars & Planets Science Extravaganza 2, *A Tale of Two Planets* — Oct 2017
Conference Keele University Transiting Exoplanets, *Characterizing HD 29134b, the Nearest Transiting Rocky Planet* — Jul 2017

SELECTED PUBLIC TALKS

Assembly speaker Nightingale-Bamford School, *My Journey as an Astronomer* — Jan 2020
Public talk National Geographic Explorer Nights, *Exploring the Universe* — Apr 2019
Public talk National Geographic Student Matinee, *Keep Looking Up: My Journey in Astronomy* — Mar 2019
Public talk CfA Observatory Night, *Weather on Other Worlds: Studying Exoplanet Atmospheres* — Feb 2019
Keynote speaker Virginia Association of Science Teachers, *Building Stronger Classrooms* — Nov 2018
Keynote speaker Virginia Science Education Leadership Association, *Diversify & Strengthen Science for All* — Nov 2018
Public talk Macaulay Honors College Professional Lunch Series, *My Path to Astronomy* — Oct 2018
Public talk National Geographic Young Explorers Grants Program Workshop at Yale University, *Brown Dwarfs: The Cool Neighbors* — Apr 2016

SELECTED MEDIA FEATURES

Podcast *HMSC Science Connects!*, Pondering Distant Suns — Jun 2020
Book National Geographic Kids, *Absolute Expert: Space!* — Jun 2020
Magazine *National Geographic*, "Women: A Century of Change" — Mar 2020
Radio show RMWorldTravel with Robert & Mary Carey and Rudy Maxa — Aug 2019
Podcast KPCC Radio, *Tell Them, I Am* (Episode 20) — May 2019
Magazine *National Geographic Kids*, "Dare to Explore" — Mar 2019
Video Explorer Academy: The Truth Behind — Oct 2018
Television CUNY TV Study with the Best (Culture and Identity) — May 2018
Book *National Geographic Kids* Solve This!: Wild & Wacky Challenges for the Genius Engineer in You — Mar 2018
Book *National Geographic Kids* Explorer Almanac 2019 — May 2018
Article *National Geographic*, Woman of Impact in Science, Meet Munazza Alam: the woman searching for planet Earth's twin — Mar 2018
Article *National Geographic*, Finding Clarity in the Stars — Oct 2016

SELECTED OUTREACH & SERVICE

Committee member Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian APS-IDEA — 2020–
Coordinator Harvard Astronomy Peer Mentoring Program — 2019–
Reviewer *Hubble Space Telescope* Proposal Review Committee, Mid-Cycles 26 & 27 — 2019–2020
Co-founder Open Labs at Harvard — 2016–2019
Poster judge National Collegiate Research Conference — 2017, 2018