

Dear JINA Horizons participant,

Thank you for registering for JINA Horizons. The goal of the meeting is to bring the nuclear astrophysics community to discuss open questions and future directions for the field, which will be summarized in a white paper. The conference program is now posted on the [website](#).

Code of conduct: all participants are expected to abide by the JINA-CEE Code of Conduct. Please take a moment to review it [<https://indico.frib.msu.edu/event/39/page/386-jina-cee-code-of-conduct>]. Please report any issues, concerns of any kind, or questions to the organizers (Ana Becerril or Hendrik Schatz or other members of the organizing committee).

Junior Workshop: The first day of the meeting, Monday November 30, will be dedicated to the Junior Workshop, which is organized by graduate students and postdocs specifically for their professional development. It is intended to be limited to students and postdocs.

Reception: We will begin the meeting with a reception on Monday, November 30, at 3 pm EST right after the Junior Workshop ends. The reception will take place in Gather.Town (see below) to facilitate informal interactions in small groups. You will receive a link prior to the meeting.

Talk Sessions: will take place as Zoom Webinars. Links will be distributed and posted in the program. Attendees can ask questions by typing in the Q&A or by raising their hand. The chair may then unmute participants to ask questions. We encourage to also use Twitter (hashtag [#JINAHorizons](#)) to ask and answer questions throughout the meeting.

Working Groups: will meet as password protected Zoom sessions. Registrants will receive passwords prior to the meeting. Please make sure you are muted unless you speak to minimize noise issues. There will be five working groups to organize discussions and white paper writing:

WG1: Explosive Nucleosynthesis

WG2: Stellar Burning

WG3: Neutron Stars and Dense Matter

WG4: Thermonuclear Explosions

WG5: Centers and Diversity

The working group conveners (will contact you with specific information about the working group(s) you registered for. We will post working group programs on the website as they become available. Feel free to contact the working group conveners with any questions or suggestions.

Unconferencing: There will also be an “Unconferencing” part of the meeting. Participants can propose topics prior to the session, up to the preparation session. Please submit topics for discussion using this shared [online form](#).

There will then be a Zoom preparation session following the last working group to finalize topics and discuss the process. After the Zoom preparation participants will move to the Gather.Town conference space. The unconferencing itself will then be happening in breakout rooms in Gather.Town, which will be assigned by topic. The room assignments will be shown at the preparation session, and there will also be a map available that shows topic and breakout rooms. There is a helpdesk in Gather.Town where you can ask for directions. Discussion leaders (usually the person who suggested the topic) and participants will move to the designated breakout room and discuss the selected topic. Unlike the rest of the space, the breakout rooms are setup as plenary rooms, so everybody in the room can interact with everybody else. This is a participant driven process. Feel free to switch topics, or spontaneously suggest new topics and find a space to discuss.

Afterglow: Whoever is interested is invited to meet in Gather.Town at the end of the daily sessions for additional informal interaction.

Gather.Town: JINA Horizons will take place on Zoom and on a Gather.Town virtual venue. Gather.Town is an online platform that allows us to interact with people close by in a similar way as we would do in person. Gather.Town will be used for the reception, the breaks, and the unconferencing. The space will be available throughout the meeting and you are encouraged to use it for follow-up discussions at any time. There is also a room where one can join the zoom sessions, if one wants to do it that way (this allows to interact with people after the talk, for example). Of course Zoom can also be joined the traditional way using the provided links.

A link to the Gather.Town space will be provided in a separate message. You are welcome to explore their website. There is some information already on the [conference website](#). We will post detailed instructions later. The main features are:

- 1) You must use a Chrome browser
- 2) After entering you can move your avatar with arrow keys
- 3) If you are within the interaction radius of other persons a video connection opens
- 4) Designated private spaces (rooms, carpets, café tables) help define the interaction space to the people within the private area. Interactions just based on interaction radius can be ambiguous for larger groups (it is for example possible, depending on each person's location, that you can talk to two people who cannot talk to each other)

The reception is also meant to help participants to become familiar with the space.

Social Media: We invite you to share the excitement on social media, using the hashtag [#JINAHorizons](#)

We hope that this meeting format will trigger collaboration and follow-up activities that will lead to exciting new research initiatives and to help shaping the future of the field of nuclear astrophysics. We are looking forward to seeing you all in JINA Horizons.

The organizing committee

Alexa Allen
Ana Becerril
Ed Brown
Camilla Hansen
Zach Meisel
Jocelyn Read
Hendrik Schatz
Achim Schwenk
Frank Timmes
Nicole Vassh