2023-2024 Aaron Speyer

Aaron Speyer is a senior undergraduate student from Fletcher, North Carolina pursuing a degree in applied physics along with minors in astronomy and math. As a Lookout Observatory docent, he enjoys planning the stargaze playlists and delivering warm room presentations during monthly public stargazes. He has collaborated with other students to perform research on short-term quasar variability and the use of machine learning for quasar-star separation. Under the guidance of Dr. David Wake, Aaron is researching and analyzing galaxy formation via the 3D Drift And SHift (3D-DASH) survey.

Outside of his coursework, Aaron is a NASA intern working for the Human Landing System (HLS) program under the Mission Systems Management office, and he has been able to extend this internship for the remainder of his time at UNC Asheville. Aaron also serves as the Deep Space Program Lead for local nonprofit Destination SPACE, where he teaches space weather, engineering, weather and climate, and data analytics to foster children and pre-college students in NC, SC, WV, KY, and Taiwan. Aaron has completed the NASA L'SPACE Mission Concept Academy (MCA) and the NASA Proposal Writing and Evaluation Experience (NPWEE) Academy, and he intends on attending graduate school after graduation with plans to study aerospace engineering and/or astronautics. In his free time, Aaron is an avid scuba diver and a student pilot.