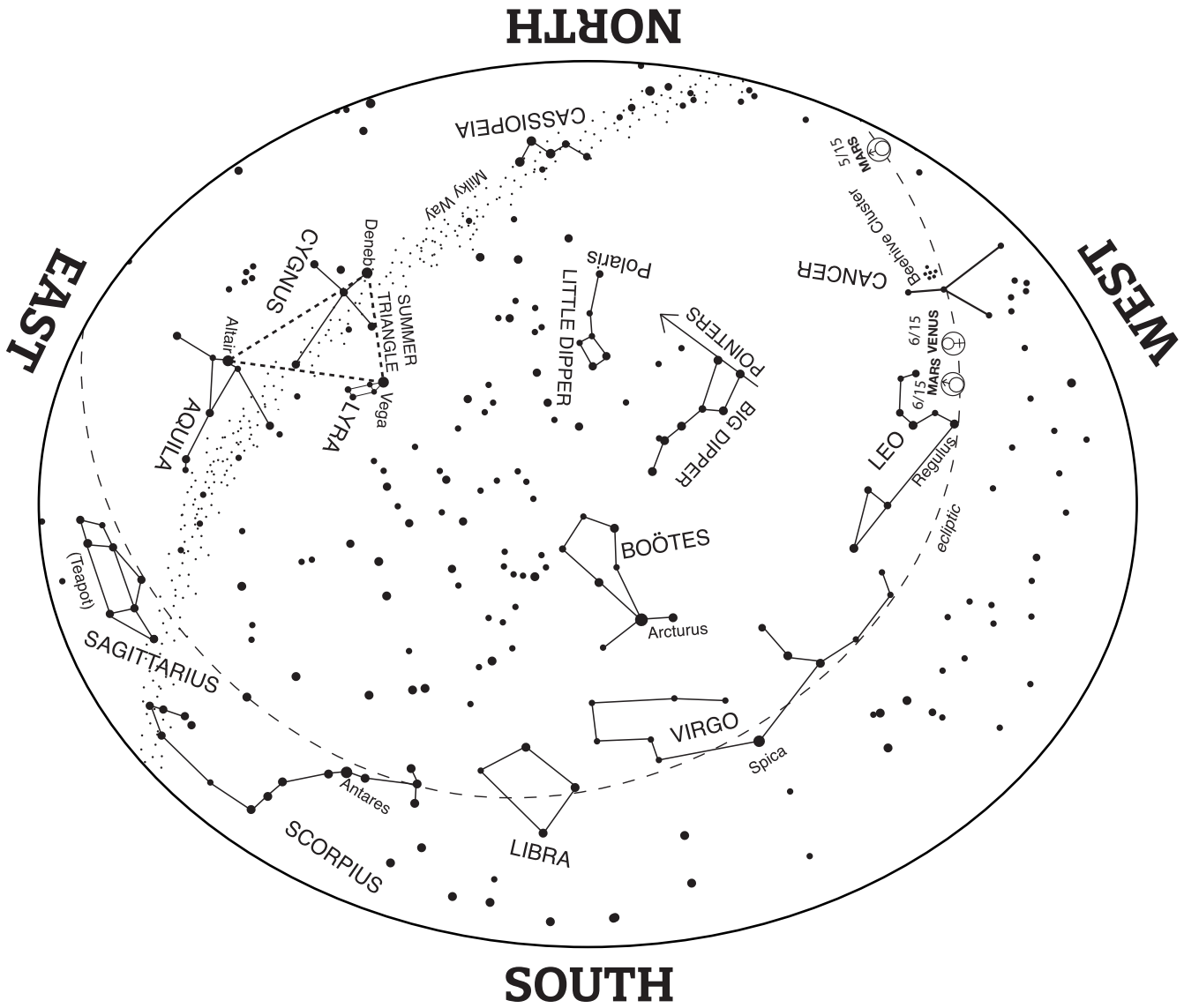
DAVIS PLANETARIUM

Starmap

MAY/JUNE 2023

MARYLAND SCIENCE CENTER
601 Light Street • Baltimore's Inner Harbor
410.685.5225 • www.marylandsciencecenter.org



TO USE MAP:
Hold the map in front of you so that the direction you are facing is on the bottom. The stars on the lower half on the map will match up with the stars in the sky. The center of the map is directly overhead in the sky. Constellation and star pattern names are all capitalized. Names of stars have only the first letter capitalized. The map is valid within an hour of:

12:30am Mid-May EDT
10:30pm Mid-June EDT

MAGNITUDE is a measure of a star's brightness. The lower the number, the brighter the star

- 1st or brighter magnitude star
- 2nd magnitude star
- 3rd magnitude star
- 4th or fainter magnitude star

ECLIPTIC:
The imaginary path of the Sun through the year. Constellations of the Zodiac surround the Ecliptic and the Moon and planets appear along it.

DAVIS PLANETARIUM

Starmap

MAY/JUNE 2023

IN THE MAY/JUNE SKY

May 1
Inferior conjunction of Mercury

May 5
Eta Aquarid meteor shower (morning)

○ **May 5**
Full Moon

May 6
Moon near Antares

May 7
Mars near Pollux

May 9
Uranus in conjunction with Sun

◑ **May 12**
Last Quarter Moon

May 13
Moon near Saturn (morning)

May 17
Moon near Jupiter (morning)

● **May 19**
New Moon

May 22/23
Moon near Venus
(*see Celestial Highlights*)

May 23
Moon near Pollux

May 24
Moon near Mars

May 26
Moon near Regulus

◐ **May 27**
First Quarter Moon

May 29
Mercury at greatest elongation (morning)
Venus near Pollux

June 1
Mars near Beehive Cluster

○ **June 3**
Full Moon near Antares

June 4
Venus at greatest elongation

June 9/10
Moon near Saturn (morning)

◑ **June 10**
Last Quarter Moon

June 12/13
Venus near Beehive Cluster

June 14
Moon near Jupiter (morning)

● **June 18**
New Moon

June 19
Moon near Pollux

June 21
Summer Solstice
(*See Celestial Highlights*)
Moon near Venus and Mars

June 22
Moon near Regulus

◐ **June 26**
First Quarter Moon

June 27
Moon near Spica

CELESTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Planet and Moon groupings – Conjunction means that two objects appear in the same place in the sky. Planets in conjunction with the Sun are not visible. Mercury is in conjunction with the Sun on May 1 and Uranus is in conjunction with the Sun on May 9.

Besides being in conjunction with the Sun, planets are also seen partnered with the Moon or a star. Mars is near the star Pollux on May 7 and Venus is near that star on May 29. Mars is near the Beehive cluster of stars on June 1 and Venus is near that cluster on the nights of June 12 and 13.

The Moon is near Antares on May 6 and will return as the Full Moon on June 3. The Moon is near Antares late at night on both dates as they rise in the East and will still be visible the next morning as they get ready to set. The Moon will pass by Saturn on the morning of May 13 and Jupiter on the morning of May 17. Less than a month later, the Moon is approaching Saturn on the morning of June 9 and will have passed by Saturn by the next morning. The Moon will pass by Jupiter on the morning of June 14.

In the evening sky, the Moon is below Venus on May 22. The next night the Moon is above Venus and close to Pollux. Then on May 24, the Moon is near Mars and on May 26 near Regulus. Early on June 19, the thin crescent Moon is near Pollux before they set toward the Northwest. On June 21, the Moon is near Venus and approaching Mars. The next evening, the Moon is between Mars and Regulus. On June 27, the Moon is near Spica.

Greatest Elongations of Mercury and Venus – Since Mercury and Venus have orbits inside of Earth's orbit they do not go through opposition. Instead, they go through a period called greatest elongation, the period when Mercury or Venus is at its farthest separation from the Sun from our perspective. Mercury's greatest elongation occurs on the morning of May 29 before sunrise. The greatest elongation for Venus occurs on the evening of June 4.

Summer Solstice, June 21 – The summer solstice on June 21st, 2023, marks the beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere and will be the longest day of the year.

The bi-monthly STARMAP is available on the web at
https://www.mdsci.org/learn/resources/starmaps/

MERCURY

When:
Before sunrise, last week May
Before sunrise, first half June

Where:
East-northeast, last week May
East-northeast, first half June

Constellation:
Aries, Taurus, Gemini

VENUS

When:
Before midnight

Where:
West

Constellation:
Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo

MARS

When:
Before midnight

Where:
West-northwest

Constellation:
Gemini, Cancer, Leo

JUPITER

When:
Before sunrise, after first week of May
Morning sky, June

Where:
East to Southeast

Constellation:
Pisces, Aries

SATURN

When:
Morning sky

Where:
Southeast to South

Constellation:
Aquarius