

# Michigan Light Project: Volunteer Opportunities



INTERNATIONAL  
YEAR OF LIGHT  
2015

## Who we are:

The Michigan Light Project is a group of academics, industrialists, and artists who want to demonstrate the amazing aspects of light and energy in society as well as promote awareness that the State of Michigan is a worldwide hub of light-related industry, culture, and art. Our current sponsors are SPIE, OSA, Ann Arbor OSA, and the Optics Society at the University of Michigan.

## Our Aims:

- ❑ To raise awareness about “Optics and Photonics” and the impact of light in society.
- ❑ To create a set of interactive demonstrations that can be reproduced and distributed in the classroom as scientific teaching aids.

## Currently planned IYL activities:

For the 2015 International Year of Light, we will be appearing at two festivals:

- ❑ Ann Arbor Summer Festival on June 30th, 5 PM - 8 PM
- ❑ Back to the Bricks Festival in Flint, MI on August 15th, 9 AM - 5 PM

At these festivals, we will have a tent filled with optics-related activities. People of all ages, especially kids, will learn about the things light can do. Currently planned activities include:

- ❑ **Energy-harvesters** - Build you own ‘self-powered’ piezoelectric animal or noise maker to take home. Build a basic piezoelectric disk and LED circuit.
- ❑ **3D Holography** - See how a hologram is made. We’ll be making holograms to show people - outside, in a tent, in the summer.
- ❑ **Microscopy** - Zoom in on the microscopic universe around you with this activity.
- ❑ **Solar-powered Transit** - Race a solar-power device on our course and learn how different light sources emit different levels of energy.

## Get Involved:

We need people of all different skill levels to make our events a success. Opportunities for involvement include:

- ❑ **Demonstration Development** - Do you have an idea for a light-based demonstration? We need creative people to develop more activities like those listed above. Work with us to develop a demonstration that showcases your idea or technology.
- ❑ **“Day-of” Volunteer** - Help us out at a specific event such as the Ann Arbor Summer Festival or the Back to the Bricks Festival. Opportunities available include running a demonstration, explaining optics to kids and adults, logistics coordinator, and more.
- ❑ **Graphic Designer** - We want to create high-quality signage and brochures for our events. We would appreciate the donated time of a graphic designer to make our materials shine.
- ❑ **New Event / Classroom Visit** - We are looking for more ways to get involved in the local community this year. Do you have an event that we should attend or a classroom that you would like us to visit? Let us know!

Contact Liz Dreyer <[efcloos@umich.edu](mailto:efcloos@umich.edu)> and visit [michiganlightproject.wordpress.com/get-involved](http://michiganlightproject.wordpress.com/get-involved) for additional information.