# CIERA media summary *(June 1, 2022-Nov. 30, 2022)*

## Chart Description automatically generatedOverall metrics:

CIERA faculty were mentioned in more than 500 news stories from June 2022 through November 2022 for a reach of 42.7 million.

Work was cited in major outlets including CNN, CNET, Vice, Gizmodo and many others.

**Chart, line chart

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**Chart, bar chart

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**Top stories:**

Brightest ever gamma ray burst

Wen-fai Fong and Jillian Rastinejad detect the brightest gamma-ray burst (GRB) ever recorded, affectionately referred to as the B.O.A.T. (“brightest of all time”). Their work was cited in **123 stories** for a reach of **20.3 million**.

**Clip highlights:**

* [Science](https://www.sciencenews.org/article/boat-brightest-gamma-ray-burst-supernova), Oct. 28, 2022
* [Wired](https://www.wired.com/story/brightest-of-all-time-gamma-ray-burst-supernova-hunt/), Oct. 26, 2022
* [Scientific American](https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-brightest-gamma-ray-burst-ever-recorded-rattled-earths-atmosphere/), Oct. 21, 2022
* [South China Morning Post](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3196670/major-feat-chinese-telescope-one-biggest-cosmic-blasts-big-bang-hits-earth), Oct. 21, 2022
* [CNET](https://www.cnet.com/science/space/record-breaking-gamma-ray-burst-leaves-astrophysicists-in-awe/), Oct. 20, 2022
* [The Economist](https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2022/10/19/the-most-powerful-flash-yet-seen-in-the-sky-was-recorded-on-october-9th), Oct. 19, 2022
* [Business Insider](https://www.businessinsider.com/nasa-detects-brightest-explosion-ever-recorded-star-collapsing-black-hole-2022-10), Oct. 18, 2022
* [CNN](https://us.cnn.com/2022/10/17/world/gamma-ray-burst-detection-scn/index.html), Oct. 18, 2022
* [Salon](https://www.salon.com/2022/10/18/a-gamma-ray-burst--possibly-the-brightest-of-all-time--sweeps-over-earth/), Oct. 18, 2022
* [Space.com](https://www.space.com/gamma-ray-burst-brightest-of-all-time), Oct. 18, 2022
* [The Times](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/universes-biggest-ever-explosion-came-from-black-holes-birth-cry-s6spt9v5m) (London), Oct. 18, 2022
* [Axios](https://www.axios.com/2022/10/17/gamma-ray-burst-explosion-space), Oct. 17, 2022
* [IFL Science​](https://www.iflscience.com/the-most-powerful-gamma-ray-explosion-ever-detected-briefly-changed-earth-s-atmosphere-65778), Oct. 17, 2022
* [Mashable](https://mashable.com/article/space-explosion-supernova-energy-burst), Oct. 17, 2022
* [Forbes](https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamiecartereurope/2022/10/14/todays-most-powerful-explosion-ever-recorded-was-the-birth-cry-of-a-new-black-hole-say-scientists/?sh=377d918c46c2), Oct. 14, 2022
* [Gizmodo](https://gizmodo.com/most-powerful-explosion-gamma-ray-burst-october-2022-1849660318), Oct. 14, 2022
* [Vice](https://www.vice.com/en/article/g5v887/scientists-detect-completely-unprecedented-gamma-ray-burst-grb), Oct. 11, 2022

Millimeter-wavelength light explosion

For the first time, scientists — led by Wen-fai Fong — have recorded millimeter-wavelength light from a fiery explosion caused by the merger of a neutron star with another star. The discovery was cited in **47 stories** for a reach of **7.3 million**.

**Clip highlights:**

* [CNET](https://www.cnet.com/science/space/worlds-largest-radio-telescope-captures-glowing-aftermath-of-stars-colliding/), Aug. 5, 2022
* [Space.com](https://www.space.com/short-powerful-gamma-ray-beam-collision), Aug. 5, 2022

Magnetic star disruption

Researchers led by Weinberg’s Erin Cox discover a wandering star that disrupted a stellar nursery.The new findings provide insight into binary star formation and how magnetic fields influence the earliest stages of developing stars. The discovery was mentioned in **26 news stories** for a reach of **4.5 million**.

**Clip highlights:**

* [Space.com](https://www.space.com/star-wandering-to-form-binary), June 16, 2022
* [CNET](https://www.cnet.com/science/space/how-a-mysteriously-twisted-magnetic-field-unveiled-a-stellar-secret/), June 14, 2022
* [IFL Science](https://www.iflscience.com/wandering-star-has-stellar-nurserys-magnetic-field-in-a-twist-64046), June 14, 2022

SGRB catalog

Researchers led by Wen-fai Fong and Anya Nugent developed the most extensive inventory to date of the galaxies where short gamma-ray bursts (SGRBs) originate. The discovery was mentioned in **12 news stories** for a reach of **917,000**.

**Clip highlights:**

* [The Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/space/sgrb-location-galaxies-universe-stars-b2229826.html), Nov. 21, 2022
* [Space.com](https://www.space.com/short-gamma-ray-bursts-trace-source-star-mergers), Nov. 25, 2022

Micro-X rocket launch

On Aug. 21, a NASA-funded team that includes Northwestern faculty and students launched the “Micro-X” rocket from White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico. The rocket spent 15 minutes in space — just enough time to snap a quick image of supernova remnant Cassiopeia A. The story drew **four news mentions** for a reach of **105,000**.

**Clip highlights:**

* [Space Daily](https://www.spacedaily.com/pageone/spacedaily-2022-08-12.html), Aug. 15, 2022

Webb’s exoplanet image

For the first time, a team of astronomers — including Northwestern University’s [Jason Wang](https://ciera.northwestern.edu/directory/jason-wang/) — used NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope to take a direct image of a planet outside our solar system. The exoplanet is a gas giant, meaning it has no rocky surface and could not be habitable. The story drew **two news mentions** for a reach of **5,000**.

**Clip highlights:**

* [WTTW](https://ct.moreover.com/?a=48734817133&p=8vr&v=1&x=fF1g5I1vxLy7caH_kIoSjw), Sept. 12, 2022