

# Aaron Meisner

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CONTACT      aaron.meisner@noirlab.edu  
<http://aaronmeisner.com>

EDUCATION      **Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA      9/2010–5/2015

Ph.D., Physics

- Thesis Title: *Full-sky, High-resolution Maps of Interstellar Dust*
- Thesis Advisor: Douglas Finkbeiner

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA      9/2006–6/2010

B.S., Physics with Distinction, Departmental Honors, Concentration in Astrophysics

- Thesis Title: *Imaging Redshift Estimates for Gamma-ray BL Lacertae Objects*
- Thesis Advisor: Roger Romani

POSITION      **Assistant Astronomer**      2/2022–

NSF's National Optical-Infrared Astronomy Research Laboratory, Tucson, AZ  
◦ Community Science & Data Center ([CSDC](#))

AWARDS

[Top 10 Space Stories of 2021](#) – *Astronomy Magazine* (2022)

*for Meisner et al. (2021) & Kirkpatrick et al. (2021)*

AURA Science Award (2021)

*“for innovative work with citizen science / Backyard Worlds to identify a large population of cool low mass neighbors to the Sun”*

NASA Robert H. Goddard Award – Backyard Worlds: Planet 9 Team (2021)

*“for outstanding contributions to the study of brown dwarfs and the solar neighborhood, and an exceptional demonstration of the power of citizen science”*

AURA Science Award – DECam Legacy Survey Team (2020)

AURA Team Award – DESI Installation Team (2020)

Builder – Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (2018)

*“for outstanding contributions to the imaging survey”*

NASA Hubble Fellowship (2018-2019)

[Forbes 30 Under 30 - Science](#) (2018)

*“Meisner focuses on data-intensive challenges in astronomy, such as the search for our solar system’s theorized ninth planet. He cofounded the popular Backyard Worlds citizen science project, assembling a team of more than 100,000 volunteers worldwide that has discovered over 200 worlds.”*

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2013-2015)

National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship (2010-2013)

American Astronomical Society Chambliss Astronomy Achievement Award (2010)

Harvard Physics Purcell Fellowship (2010)

Stanford Jeffrey Willick Memorial Award (2010)

*“outstanding physics major studying astrophysics”*

Stanford University President’s Award for Academic Excellence in the Freshman Year (2007)