

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)  
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THE ASTRA PROGRAM: A ROLE-PLAY AND WORKSHOP BASED SPACE EDUCATION FORMAT  
FOR NON-FOR-PROFIT IMPLEMENTATION

**Abstract**

Based on the Australian Civil Space Strategy released in 2019, the Australia's Space Workforce is set to triple by 2030. To prepare for this, university graduates and young professionals are required to be rapidly upskilled in space technology and literacy. The Australian Youth Aerospace Association (AYAA) has developed numerous programs in support of this need, most recently has been the development of a transdisciplinary space education program, known as the Astra Program. This paper presents the AYAA's findings on implementing working groups and role-play-based activities as an education mechanism and assesses their efficacy against learning and engagement outcomes. It also captures lessons learned in running programs online and outlines the scope of future work for the program. Lastly, the paper also provides an overview of how the educational format could be applied by other organisations striving to upskill developing space nations, with a focus on not-for-profit implementation.