



Royal  
Astronomical  
Society

**RAS Annie Maunder Medal 2022**

**Dr Nicolas Bonne, Dr Jen Gupta and Dr Coleman Krawczyk**

The Tactile Universe project, led by Dr Nicolas Bonne and supported by Dr Jen Gupta and Dr Coleman Krawczyk, delivers workshops that make astronomy accessible to vision-impaired children. Their work enables children between the ages of 7 and 14, to experience the benefits of a multi-sensory learning experience, inspiring them to the wonders of the universe with 3d models of galaxies, the Solar System and using sound. A newly funded STFC project will enable the project to expand its interests to the communicate research into gravitational waves. In addition to delivering workshops, the team have created resource kits and train other practitioners and museums to share knowledge so that the project goals are disseminated widely across the UK. The project has received international recognition through invited conference talks, and media coverage, including an appearance on BBC's The Sky at Night, and has collaborated with an international installation at the British Science Festival. The Tactile Universe also has international reach through the [project's website](#), where educators across the world can access developed lesson plans, presentations, and instructions for how to create 3d printed models to deliver astronomy classes to children regardless of their level of vision. The Tactile Universe project and its team are commended for their continuing efforts to create a more inclusive environment that brings astronomy to all.

For these reasons Dr Nicolas Bonne, Dr Jen Gupta, Dr Coleman Krawczyk are awarded the RAS Annie Maunder Medal, 2022, for the Tactile Universe project