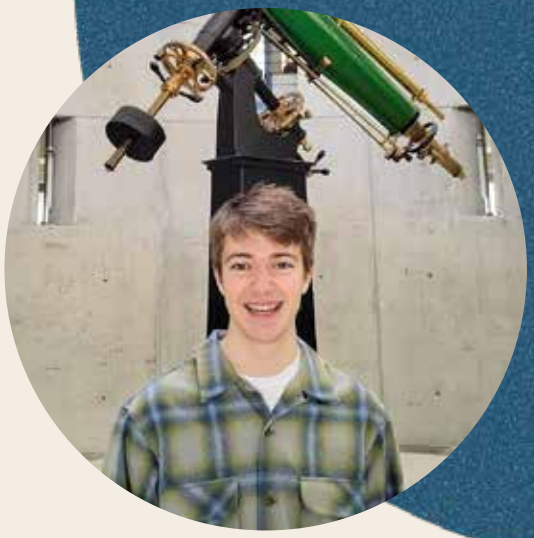
Noche de Estrellas

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2026
7:00–9:30pm

SAN FRANCISCO STATE
THORNTON HALL
FOURTH FLOOR

OPEN TO ALL
Science Talks
Rooftop Observing with **Telescopes**



FREE

Speaker: **León Garcia**
Astrophysics Student at Stanford

How to Weigh a Shadow: The Dark Clouds Where Stars Are Born

Point an infrared telescope at the Milky Way and you'll see dark patches against its glow. These are infrared dark clouds: cold, dense clouds of gas and dust so thick they block the light behind them. Astronomers think they're where the most massive stars and star clusters get their start. One way to weigh them is by their shadows: the darker the patch, the more gas and dust it holds. We'll look at what these clouds are, how telescopes like Spitzer and James Webb measure them, and one of astronomy's big open questions: how do stars dozens of times heavier than the Sun form?

All events in Spanish and English