



## Amy Steele

Graduate Student  
University of Maryland

Amy Steele is a rising fourth-year graduate student at the University of Maryland at College Park. She is currently working with her advisor, Dr. John Debes (STScI), on tracking what happens to things like the solar system's Kuiper belt as solar-type stars age and "die." Amy is a first-generation American with parents hailing from the small island of Grenada. She previously received a B.A. in math and astronomy from Williams College, and an M.A. in astronomy from Wesleyan University, where she worked with Dr. Meredith Hughes. After getting her Ph.D., Amy hopes to continue pursuing original research in the field of circumstellar material and disks.

Amy has seen two total solar eclipses: one in Kastellorizo, Greece in 2006 and a second in Cairns, Australia in 2012. As an observational astronomer, Amy loves to observe the night sky and has used telescopes in Florida (in her backyard), California, Greece, Australia, Arizona, and Hawaii. Amy will observe the "Great American Eclipse" from Salem, Oregon and just weeks later will complete a five-day observing run at the Submillimeter Array in Hawaii.

Amy's hobbies include dancing, reading science fiction, baking, and knitting.