



"IT'S OVER YOUR HEAD"

RADIO PROGRAM WRITER'S GUIDELINES

Who we are

It's Over Your Head is a weekly five and a half minute radio program that airs across Western Washington and on the World Wide Web. It's Over Your Head is produced by Celestial North and broadcast on KSER 90.7 FM in Everett, Washington and on the CelestialNorth.org website. The program has aired continuously on KSER for over a decade.

Script Topics

It's Over Your Head program topics span a diverse set of astronomy and space topics. Skywatching, solar system evolution, planetary formation and the history of astronomy are popular themes.

Scripts should be accessible to a general audience. The use of technical terms should be limited. When technical terms are used, they must be defined. It's Over Your Head welcomes script topics that cover new discoveries in astrophysics and space that have not made yet made the evening news.

Guidelines

Script writers generate their own ideas. Summarize your proposed script topic into three or four sentences and submit to the Managing Editor. As the program has been produced for over a decade, please visit the program archives first to review which topics have already been "done."

Quick tips for script success:

- Short sentences are best. Try not to exceed 20 words per sentence. Periods are free. Short, peppy sentences are priceless.
- Ideal script length is 850 words. The minimum script length is 800 words.
- Use the active voice. Always.
- Include a list of references and sources used to prepare the script.
- Use the Celestial North Script Template provided by the Managing Editor.

Rights

It's Over Your Head/Celestial North retains the rights to use the scripts in our radio programs and on our World Wide Web sites. Celestial North is a nonprofit 501(3)(c) organization.

Getting Paid

Currently, no payment for scripts is offered. However, contributing writers do receive a byline on the printed script. Script acceptance varies according to topic and other factors determined by the Managing Editor. Most scripts air within three months after acceptance. Celestial North retains the right to edit scripts for accuracy, content, clarity and style.

Making First Contact

Submit your 3-4 sentence script summary to the Managing Editor, Annika Wallendahl via email, annika@celestialnorth.org, or via snail mail, Celestial North, 3916 Lambs Rest Lane, Greenbank, WA 98253.