Light & Lilacs

LASING IN BLOOM

by Valeria Viteri-Pflucker

Certain crystals, when illuminated by light, emit light of a different color by way of stimulated emission. Lasers work by illuminating such crystals in environments that amplify this emission, creating laser light. This piece shows an array of laser crystals, illuminated from below, and their resultant laser light blooms above into a bouquet of lilac flowers.

Optics Outreach Tent • Lilac Festival 2023

May 12 – 21, 2023 | 10:30am – 8:30pm

Near the Lilac Arches | Highland Park, Rochester, NY

Interactive science demonstrations that explore light, color, and optics — fun for all ages! Take a look at the beautiful cell structure of a lilac flower under a microscope, investigate how your eyes perceive color, learn about thermal imaging aboard the James Webb Space Telescope, and more!

THE INSTITUTE OF OPTICS
HAJIM SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES
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International Day of Light
16 May

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