

ABSTRACT ONLY**BRIDGING ASTRONOMICAL HERITAGE AND
SOCIETY IN A SCIENCE MUSEUM:
HISTORICAL SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS AS
A TOOL TO PRESERVE OUR HISTORY**M. F. Gomes¹, J. V. Fonseca¹, and D. F. Silva¹

Building bridges between society and historic scientific instruments (HSIs) in a museum collection is a challenging task, due to the different historical and sociocultural backgrounds involved in the construction of Brazilian society. Creating an environment that encourages dialogues about heritage and learning the history of national Astronomy through these artifacts requires the use of methodologies that foster the connection between the public and the objects. In this work, we aim to share some of the educational practices developed and applied using the astronomical artifacts from the collection of the Museum of Astronomy and Related Sciences (MAST), exploring not only their role in history or pedagogical dimensions but also their role in the process of constructing society, promoting dialogues and critical reflections on scientific culture. Through activities such as mediated guided visits, the project follows four main pillars: (1) models and modeling, (2) three-way interactivity (hands-on, minds-on, hearts-on), (3) museum education, and (4) horizontal teaching and learning. These aspects promoted the exploration of the HSIs from the collection that played an essential role in the development of Brazilian Astronomy, giving them a new meaning that transcends the walls of an exhibition. Using them as a powerful tool to bridge Astronomical heritage and society, it is possible to expand the socio-pedagogical dimension of the collection, promoting the process of identifying the public, since our memories, culture, and history as a society are also intangible heritage to be preserved.

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