

# Guiding You to the Northern Lights!

With Melissa F. Kaelin, Author of “Beyond the 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel: The Beginner’s Guide to Chasing Aurora in the Mid-latitudes” | Updated 2026

## Aurora Alerts & Advice

- Advice Blog: [KaelinArt.com/aurora-blog](https://KaelinArt.com/aurora-blog)
- Telegram Alerts:  
@MichiganAuroraAlerts (Join) | Direct link: <https://t.me/MichiganAuroraAlerts>  
@AuroraRelayChannel (Join) | Direct link: <https://t.me/AuroraRelayChannel>  
@GlendaleApp (Join) | Direct link: <https://t.me/GlendaleApp>

## The Best Apps: Optimize for your Device

- Glendale App - Aurora Alerts UK (web app)  
Download it here: <https://aurora-alerts.uk/>
- Aurora Tonight! – University of Michigan (web app)  
Download it here: <https://aurora.umich.edu/>
- Space Weather Live  
Find it here or in the app store: <https://www.spaceweatherlive.com/>

## Photography Tips & Camera Settings

- Camera Note Card: Beginner Settings for Any Device: [MichiganAuroraChasers.com/camera](https://MichiganAuroraChasers.com/camera)
- Prioritize Structure: Shorten exposure times to 1-3 seconds
- Prioritize Color: Lengthen exposure times to 30 seconds, Adjust ISO and f-stop depending on brightness of Aurora
- Capture Movement: Create a time-lapse, set camera to take an image every 1-5 seconds

## My Favorite Aurora Chasing Hacks

- Refresh this link anytime to see projected Aurora activity, as measured just outside of Earth’s atmosphere: [Ovation Model](#)
- Track powerful substorms with ORANGE ALERTS or stronger, using push notifications on the [Telegram Channel](#) for Aurora Alerts U.K., a.k.a [Glendale App](#)
- Examine the trends of “That Pesky Bz” (the gatekeeper for Aurora) over a period of time: [ACE Real Time Solar Wind Data](#)
- View data and predictions for Aurora activity: [Space Weather Prediction Center](#) and [Subscription Service](#) (How-to Video on my YouTube @MelissaTheAuroraChaser)

- Latest [HUXt Forecast Animation](#) and read the **PDF** attached to email subscription from the Met Office Space Weather Plain Language Forecast
- Look for blips indicating substorms with the real-time Auroral Electrojet index from Kyoto: [Real-Time AE Index](#)
- Enable Notifications on your phone or watch from the [Space Weather Live](#) app

\* Learn more from my work for the Michigan Aurora Chasers, including a list of over [45 exact viewing locations!](#)

## Guides

### **An Empowered Guide to Viewing Locations**

[KaelinArt.com/viewing-locations](http://KaelinArt.com/viewing-locations)

### **MI Aurora Resource List**

[MichiganAuroraChasers.com/mi-aurora-resources](http://MichiganAuroraChasers.com/mi-aurora-resources)

### **Find a Viewing Location Anywhere**

1. Locate your chasing area on a Light Pollution Map:  
<https://www.lightpollutionmap.info/>
2. Watch a Video Tutorial on Finding a Viewing Location Anywhere:  
<https://youtu.be/2B-0EsNROJc?si=I2rJ6VyqwnmhHfGC>

### **More Guides:**

- Train Your Eyes on the Sky: A Field Guide
- Five Simple Steps for Tracking Solar Storms
- Seven Ways to Find an Aurora Viewing Location

To see these guides and more, visit: [KaelinArt.com/aurora](http://KaelinArt.com/aurora)

## Contests & Publication Opportunities in Michigan

### **MI Aurora Traveling Exhibit:**

<https://michiganaurorachasers.com/featured/exhibits/>

### **Capture the Dark Sky Photo Contest:**

<https://sites.google.com/view/capturethedarksky/home>

### **Shape of the Sky Book Project:**

<https://kaelinart.com/aurora/aurora-projects/shape-of-the-sky/>

### **4<sup>th</sup> Edition Design Contest:**

<https://michiganaurorachasers.com/featured/contests/design-contest/>

Connect with Melissa:

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