

## **Ideas for Using *The Fabric of the Cosmos* Coasters with Café Attendees**

NOVA has developed a set of *The Fabric of the Cosmos* coasters for you to use as a giveaway, and for café attendees to use as conversation starters and quick way to access the FABRIC website. There are 20 coasters in a set, and each one is printed with a multiple-choice question. (There are five questions on each FABRIC topic.) The coasters also have a Quick Response (QR) code that takes a person directly to the answer page on the *The Fabric of the Cosmos* website. Many smartphones have QR readers, and people can scan the QR code to find the answers to coaster questions. In addition, they'll be able to see the questions on all the other coasters and to explore the features and interactives on the *The Fabric of the Cosmos* website.

There are three main times for café attendees to use the questions printed on the coasters:

- while settling in, as a fun game to play with others at the table
- during the conversation, as a source of interesting questions to ask the speaker
- after the event, as an easy way to get to the Fabric website and further explore the café topic

---

### **While settling in**

- Point out the coasters and encourage people to test their wits by answering the questions.
- Have tables challenge neighboring tables by playing a trivia-style game.
- Encourage tables to trade cards.
- Suggest that people use their smartphone's QR reader to check out the answers, additional questions, and *The Fabric of the Cosmos* website.

---

### **During the conversation**

- Encourage people to ask the speaker for more details about a question that interests them.
- Point out that in a set of 20 coasters, there are five coasters that focus on each show. As a result, there will be many questions not touched on in the video clip or by the speaker. Broaden the conversation by asking people to share some interesting questions that seem unrelated to the café topic. Ask the speaker if he/she can connect the café topic to the "unrelated" question.

---

### **After the event**

- Tell people that the QR code is a direct link back to the *The Fabric of the Cosmos* website. Let them know that on the website, they can stream the episodes, play a space-time interactive, and download podcasts.
- Demonstrate how to read a QR code with a smartphone QR reader.
- Encourage people to take the coasters home with them.