

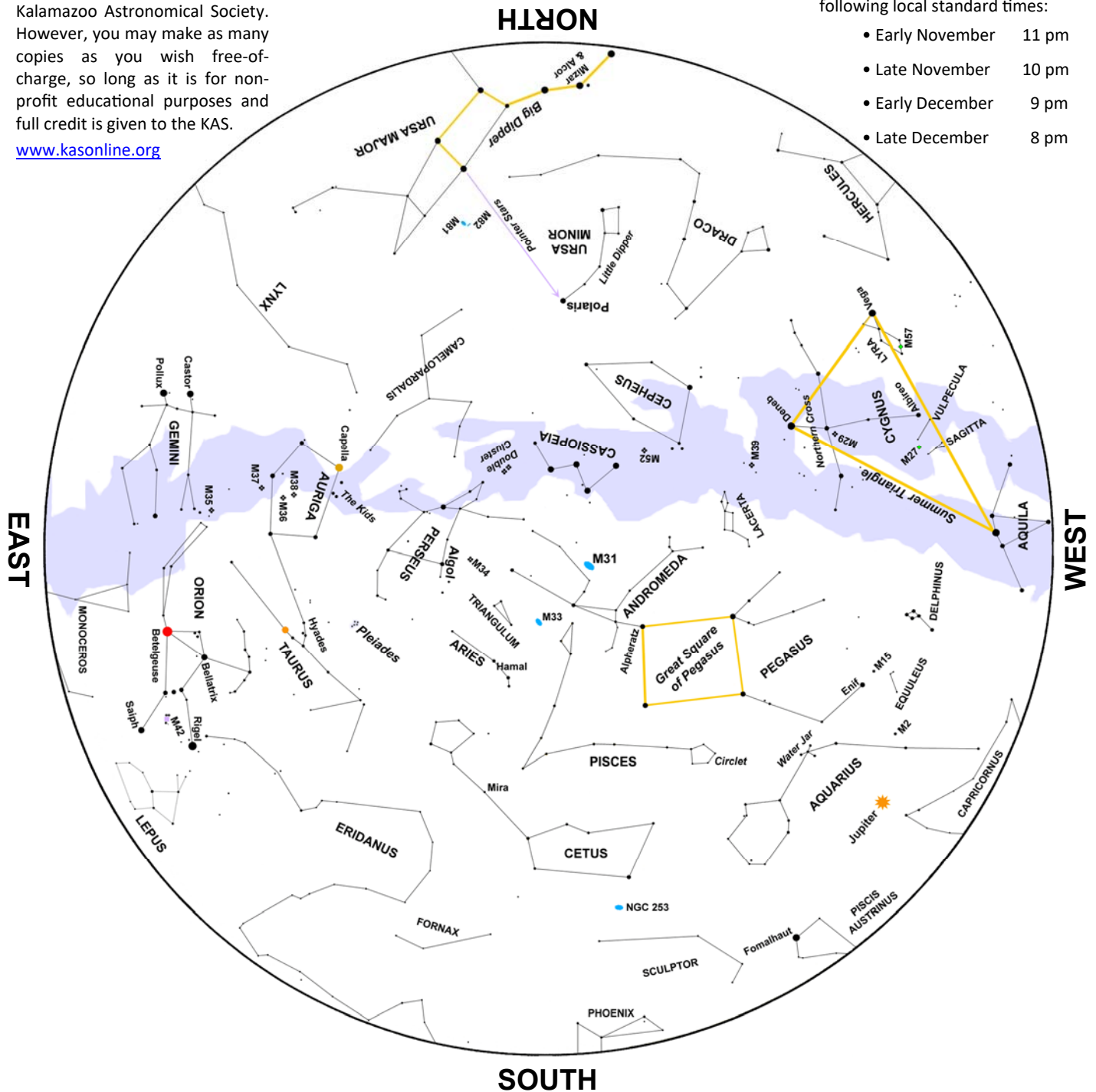
— December Night Sky —

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This map represents the sky at the following local standard times:

- Early November 11 pm
- Late November 10 pm
- Early December 9 pm
- Late December 8 pm



Look low on the southwestern horizon after sunset on December 6th and you'll spot a two-day old crescent Moon suspended 2½° below Venus. That's close enough to fit in the field of 15×70 binoculars. Venus' stint as the Evening Star will soon end, so this will be your last chance for a while to enjoy a Moon-Venus conjunction in the evening sky.

On the following evening (Dec. 7th), the waxing crescent Moon can be found 5½° below Saturn. Notice that Venus, Saturn, and Jupiter are in a straight line. They'll be in this configuration throughout the entire month.

The Geminid meteor shower is predicted to peak at 2am EST on December 14th.

From a dark, rural location up to 150 meteors/hour can be spotted. However, a waning gibbous Moon spoils the show until it sets at 3:38 am.

Early morning risers should look toward the southeastern horizon before dawn on December 31st. A crescent Moon, Mars, and Antares form an equilateral triangle.