

The Jesuit astronomers Nicolaus Ianosi and Maximilian Hell in Cluj

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With the development of the University of Cluj in the 18th century, science became increasingly important. In this trend, astronomy had an important role. As a result, the establishment of the Astronomical Observatory became necessary. In the astronomical education and in the planning of the Cluj-Napoca Astronomy Observatory, the central role was played by two Jesuits: Nicolaus Ianosi (1701–1741) and Maximilian Hell (1720–1792). Ianosi and Hell spent only a few years in Cluj, but their work was decisive for the development of astronomy in Cluj. Our purpose is to present the work of these two great Jesuits in Cluj.