



Space Center Houston and Our Education Foundation

The 501(c)(3) nonprofit Manned Space Flight Education Foundation has Space Center Houston as the cornerstone of its mission to inspire all generations through the wonders of space exploration. The leading science and space learning center is one of Houston's top attractions, the Official Visitor Center of NASA Johnson Space Center and a Smithsonian Affiliate.



Since opening in 1992, Space Center Houston has welcomed nearly 20 million people and hosts more than 1 million visitors annually in its 250,000-square-foot educational complex.

The center earned a 2016 Top Workplaces Award by The Houston Chronicle and generates annually a \$73 million economic impact, 925 jobs and \$36 million in personal income in greater Houston, according to a 2016 economic study by Jason Murasko and Stephen Cotten, associate professors of economics at the University of Houston - Clear Lake.

Fun and engaging education

Educational emphasis is placed on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in a fun and engaging way. It uses space exploration to inspire wonder and interest in science and math.

- Space Center Houston offers a rich array of education programming for teachers and students, providing extraordinary learning opportunities.
- Inspiring young people to choose careers in STEM is one of the outcomes of our programs.
- Education programs are based on evidence of effective learning and teaching methodology.

Educational complex and space museum

The center features three theaters, live shows, more than 400 space artifacts and numerous permanent and traveling hands-on exhibits telling the exciting future and remarkable past of America's human spaceflight program – all for one admission price. The experience engages adults and children alike.

- There is always something new at Space Center Houston with an amazing array of traveling exhibits and astounding events.
- The center has the world's largest collection of moon rocks and lunar samples for public view.
- Guests are taken behind the scenes to see NASA Johnson Space Center, the home of Mission Control and astronaut training.

Independence Plaza – now boarding

Space Center Houston's permanent exhibit, Independence Plaza presented by Boeing, is an unprecedented, international landmark standing eight stories tall and displayed in the ferry configuration. Visitors can explore exhibits inside both the shuttle replica and the historic NASA 905 shuttle carrier aircraft. Multiple exhibits grant a rare glimpse into the historic shuttle era and describe its impact on future exploration. The giant complex is the biggest project for Space Center Houston since opening.

