Educators and Experts Collaborate at Space Center Houston’s 26th Space Exploration Educators Conference

NASA astronaut Joseph Acaba and associate administrator of NASA’s STEM engagement Mike Kincaid kicked off the first day of Space Center Houston’s 26th Annual Space Exploration Educators Conference (SEEC), Feb. 6-8, with a keynote session attended by more than 600 educators from around the globe. Other speakers and experts include NASA’s leading women supporting missions to the Moon, Mars and beyond. Lara Kearney, deputy program manager of NASA’s Gateway Program, delivered Friday’s keynote. NASA’s chief flight director Holly Ridings, the first woman to lead the elite group directing human spaceflight missions, will close SEEC with her address on Saturday. To learn more, visit spacecenter.org/seec.

Photo courtesy of Space Center Houston

SEEC inspires K-12 educators of all disciplines to develop cross-cultural collaborations in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The conference has welcomed more than 600 educators from more than 12 countries for a three-day interactive learning experience while top space experts shed light on what’s happening now in science and human space exploration. To learn more, visit spacecenter.org/seec.

Photo courtesy of Space Center Houston
Engaging space and science learning sessions included using virtual reality goggles to design 3D planetary habitats while learning how humans can live on Mars. Through more than 160 hands-on STEM workshops, educators gained the latest, innovative teaching tools to take back to the classroom and inspire the next generation of explorers. To learn more, visit spacecenter.org/seec.

Photo courtesy of Space Center Houston

Educators got an up-close look at some of NASA Johnson Space Center's facilities advancing current and future deep-space missions, including the Neutral Buoyancy Lab (NBL). Educators learned how astronauts train underwater to refine spacewalk procedures, develop flight procedures and verify hardware compatibility that are necessary to ensure mission success. To learn more, visit spacecenter.org/seec.

Photo courtesy of Space Center Houston

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The Manned Space Flight Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit science and space exploration learning center with extensive educational programs. Space Center Houston is the cornerstone of its mission to inspire all generations through the wonders of space exploration. The center draws more than 1.25 million visitors annually, was named “Best Museum in Texas” by USA Today and generates a $118.7 million annual economic impact in the greater Houston area. Space Center Houston is a Smithsonian Affiliate, the Official Visitor Center of NASA Johnson Space Center and a Certified Autism Center. More than 250,000 teachers and students from around the world visit the center annually to experience the educational space museum with more than 400 things to see and do. For more information, go to www.spacecenter.org.