



Megan McArthur, Ph.D.

Chief Science Officer
Space Center Houston
Manned Space Flight Education Foundation

Megan McArthur, Ph.D. serves as Space Center Houston's first chief science officer. Dr. McArthur is a scientist, oceanographer, engineer and NASA astronaut. In this new role, she supports strategic planning, education programs, exhibits and the guest experience.

McArthur brings more than two decades of NASA experience with a new mission to develop authentic science and space exploration learning experiences for students and the general public. In addition to supporting the center's overall strategic science initiatives, McArthur forges new alliances to create partnerships within the local, national and global communities. With her extensive expertise in science and human spaceflight, she informs new educational programs leveraging the latest tools and resources dedicated to empowering people of all ages in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Most recently, she served as pilot of the SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft, named Endeavour, during NASA's SpaceX Crew-2 mission which landed November 8, 2021. It was the second commercial crew rotation mission aboard the International Space Station and the third crewed flight for that spacecraft. She also served as Flight Engineer of Expedition 65/66 on the International Space Station. McArthur was selected as a NASA astronaut in 2000 and served as a Mission Specialist aboard STS-125, the final space shuttle mission to the Hubble Space Telescope. The successful mission improved the telescope's capabilities and extended its life.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of California, Los Angeles and a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of California, San Diego where she performed research activities at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

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.