

## Manned Space Flight Education Foundation and Space Center Houston

The Manned Space Flight Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with an extensive science education program and a space museum. The cornerstone of its science education mission is Space Center Houston. It is one of Houston's top attractions, the Official Visitor Center of NASA Johnson Space Center and Houston's first and only Smithsonian Affiliate.



Since opening in 1992, Space Center Houston has welcomed nearly 18 million people and hosts nearly 1 million visitors annually in its 183,000-square-foot educational entertainment complex. Space Center Houston has a \$73 million impact on the greater Houston economy. It generates approximately 925 jobs and \$36 million in local personal income, 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.

- More than 100,000 teachers and students from around the world visit the center annually to take part in extraordinary learning opportunities.
- Inspiring young people to choose careers in STEM is one of the outcomes of our program, which is led by a doctor of education.
- Education programs are based on evidence of effective learning and teaching methods.

### Entertainment complex and space museum

The center features more than 400 space artifacts as well as numerous permanent and traveling exhibits, attractions and theaters related to the exciting future and remarkable past of America's human space-flight program – all for one admission price. The experience is designed to engage adults and children alike.

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

### Independence Plaza – now boarding

Space Center Houston's new exhibit Independence Plaza presented by Boeing is an unprecedented, international landmark standing over eight stories tall and displayed in the ferry configuration. Visitors can explore exhibits inside both the shuttle 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 the nonprofit since opening.