

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. We're a leading science and space exploration learning center, one of Houston's top attractions, the Official Visitor Center of NASA Johnson Space Center, a Smithsonian Affiliate and a Certified Autism Center.



Since opening in 1992, Space Center Houston has welcomed more than 22 million people and hosts more than 1.25 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 \$118.7 million economic impact, 1,710 jobs and \$53.7 million in personal income in greater Houston, according to a 2018 economic study by Quanticon, LLC researchers Stephen Cotton, PhD, and Jason Murasko.

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.
- 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.

SpaceX Falcon 9

A flown SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket exhibit is Space Center Houston's newest permanent exhibit. The flown Falcon 9 first stage booster set outside Space Center Houston offers an intimate look at a reusable rocket used to further space exploration and America's commercial space industry. It's one of only two SpaceX Falcon 9 boosters currently on display in the world and the first commercial space exhibit for Space Center Houston.

Independence Plaza

Space Center Houston's 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