



Challenger
LEARNING CENTER



Where learning is...mission possible!

Challenger Connection

Fall 2007

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School Missions



The 2007-2008 school year missions will begin soon!

Currently we have over 240 missions booked. We appreciate our charter school districts and look forward to providing quality programming for them again this year.



If you know of schools who are not attending the Challenger Learning Center, please pass along what an outstanding program we have.

Meet the Astronaut, October 18



Dr. Jan Davis, retired NASA astronaut, will be headlining Meet the Astronaut night on October 18 at the Challenger Learning Center at Paducah. The event is one of many in a partnership with the Museum of the American Quilter's Society. Dr. Davis is also a quilter. On October 19, MAQS will be hosting daytime activities involving Dr. Davis.

Paula Bridges, news anchor at WPSD NewsChannel 6, will host the Thursday evening program beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Clemens Fine Arts Theater on the campus of West Kentucky Community and Technical College.

After Dr. Davis recalls her trips into space on three shuttle flights, the Challenger Learning Center will host an open house. At the CLC, you can meet the astronaut, receive an autographed picture, tour the simulators, shop in the Galaxy Gift Store and register for door prizes. MAQS will also have space themed quilts on display for all to enjoy.

Although there is no cost for the October 18 event, tickets are required. Tickets will be available at the Challenger Learning Center, the Quilt Museum and Paducah Ford beginning September 14. Please call (270) 534-3101 or visit www.clcpaducah.org for more information.

Public Missions

Take your family and friends on a mini-space vacation!

Back by popular demand, the Challenger Learning Center will once again offer public missions. Participants will have the opportunity to be an astronaut in our hands-on space simulators. Make sure to book your flight with a local meteorologist from WPSD NewsChannel 6. Missions will be in December and January - dates to be determined. The cost is \$12/person. There is no motion to cause dizziness.

Check our website at www.clcpaducah.org for specific dates or call (270) 534-3101 after October 15.

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Summer Space Quest 2007

The Challenger Learning Center at Paducah recently completed its sixth summer of camps. A total of 272 students participated in 13 different camps throughout June and July.

Consider sending your children, grandchildren, students, nieces, nephews or neighbors on a summer space quest they won't forget. Starting in February 2008, look for information on new and improved camps for Space Quest 2008!



DID YOU KNOW?

- The first Challenger Learning Center opened at the Houston Museum of Natural Science on August 25, 1988.
- On August 25, 1932 Amelia Earhart set three records for women flyers: the first non-stop U.S. crossing, the longest distance record, and a coast-to-coast record time.
- The Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo spacecraft landed in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans when they returned to Earth.

STS 118 National Poster Contest

While attending Space Quest 2007 this summer, Patrick Carroll, a student at Heath Elementary, entered a national poster contest sponsored by the Challenger Center for Space Science Education. All Paducah summer camp participants were asked to create a question they would like to ask Barbara Morgan, Educator Astronaut, in a live downlink from the International Space Station during the STS 118 mission. Patrick's question was chosen by the Challenger Learning Center at Paducah and then entered in the national contest where it was among 20 questions chosen from Challenger Learning Centers across the nation.



Patrick's question, "What qualities does it take to be an astronaut?" was asked of Astronauts Barbara Morgan and Benjamin Alvin Drew during the live downlink on August 16. The astronauts answered that perseverance, hard work, flying at a Challenger Center and teamwork are all very important qualities that would make a successful astronaut. All of these qualities have been modeled by Barbara Morgan, teacher turned astronaut. She trained as a back up to Christa McAuliffe, Teacher in Space and member of the Challenger crew tragically lost in 1986. After waiting 22 years, she finally launched to space on the shuttle- that is perseverance!

Support Opportunities

The Challenger Learning Center is looking for individuals and businesses who are interested in helping promote the importance of science and math education in our region.

Please contact Mellisa Duncan, Center Director, at (270) 534-3097 for more information on how you can support our future scientists and engineers.

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