

For Immediate Release

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Aerospacefest 2010 to be held at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center

CONCORD, NH – The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center will be hosting its first annual Aerospacefest 2010 from Friday, April 30 through Sunday, May 2.

Aerospacefest keynote speaker will be Astronaut Barbara Morgan. Morgan was selected as the backup candidate for the NASA Teacher in Space Program on July 19, 1985 and trained with Christa McAuliffe and the Challenger crew at NASA's Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas. In 1998, Morgan was selected by NASA as a mission specialist and NASA's first Educator Astronaut. Morgan retired from NASA ten years later and became the Distinguished Educator in Residence at Boise State University, with a dual appointment in the colleges of Engineering and Education.

Aerospacefest will celebrate the space sciences and aeronautics with numerous activities, demonstrations, speakers and exhibitors from all over New England. Visitors from all ages and backgrounds will have the opportunity to meet officials from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the New Hampshire Aviation & Space Education Council (NHASEC), the New Hampshire Astronomical Society, and other scientists and engineers from the fields developing new technologies for future space missions. Other activities will include rocket launching, games, and the premiere of an all new planetarium show.

The three-day event will kick off with Friday night guest speaker Doris Seastream and a special presentation on "Zero Gravity for Amateurs". Seastream received her BS in clinical biology/secondary education from Notre Dame College in Manchester and her M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction from Plymouth State University. She currently teaches at Goffstown High School.

The winners of the Alex Higgins Space Camp Scholarship Awards and the Astronomy Bowl 2010 will also be announced. The Space Camp Scholarship Awards are for three talented New Hampshire students to be chosen by the Discovery Center and its philanthropic arm, Touch the Future, Inc., and will cover the cost of tuition for [Space Camp](#) in Huntsville, AL. The Astronomy Bowl 2010 is a statewide competition for high school students. The top three winners receive scholarship prizes to be used towards higher education.

The new McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center features 21st century interactive exhibits on aviation, astronomy, Earth and space sciences, a state-of-the-art planetarium and a variety of science, technology, engineering and math programs. The engaging, robust educational programs are geared towards families, teens, seniors, students, community groups, and lifelong learners. For more information, visit www.starhop.com.

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