

## For Immediate Release

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### **Astronaut Barbara Morgan and NASA's Alan Ladwig to Speak at Aerospacefest 2010**

*Aerospacefest 2010 takes place on Friday, April 30 through Sunday, May 2 at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center.*

CONCORD, NH – Keynote speaker at Aerospacefest 2010 on Saturday, May 1 will be Astronaut Barbara Morgan at 2 PM. Morgan will speak about her experiences as well as present scholarship awards to this year's Astronomy Bowl IV winners, held at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center on March 27. Keynote speaker on Sunday, May 2, will be NASA's Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Outreach Alan Ladwig at 2 PM. Ladwig will also present awards to the winners of the Alex Higgins Space Camp Scholarship.

Barbara 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.

Alan Ladwig is the Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Outreach in NASA's Office of Communications. Ladwig returned to NASA in January 2009, after having been in the private sector as a consultant on space-related matters for Whitney, Bradley & Brown, Inc., Northrop Grumman Corporation, Space.com, and ZERO Gravity Corporation. During his previous stint at NASA, Ladwig served in a number of positions and established procedures and managed the Space Flight Participant Program and Teacher in Space program.

A three-day festival, Aerospacefest will celebrate the space sciences and aeronautics. Visitors 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. Events include Military Aerial Support, helicopter rides, rocket and balloon launches, Axeuous the Robot, Mad Science, the premiere of a new planetarium show, and the launch of a new virtual scavenger hunt via cell phone, the Discovery Center's latest interactive experience. For more information, go online to [www.aerospacefest.com](http://www.aerospacefest.com) or call (603) 271-7827.

Aerospacefest is sponsored by Northeast Delta Dental, Centrix Bank, UPS and The Boeing Company.

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](http://www.starhop.com).

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