



MEDIA ALERT | For Immediate Release
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Contact: Sarah Reichle
Mobile: 412.638.4548
ReichleS@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

Contact: Connie George
412.638.7029
GeorgeC@CarnegieScienceCenter.org

CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER OPENS NEW PERMANENT MARS EXHIBITION

Mars: The Next Giant Leap, launches guests on a 300-million-mile journey to Mars where they will examine the many facets of space exploration and imagine how life could realistically look on the Red Planet.



Hi-res images available to download [here](#).

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 17, 2022 – Today Carnegie Science Center unveiled to members of the news media *Mars: The Next Giant Leap*, the most ambitious new experience built since the museum’s inception in 1991.

The exhibition opens to Carnegie Museum Members tomorrow, Fri., Nov. 18, and the public grand opening is Sat., Nov. 19. Mars is a permanent exhibition gallery and is included with general admission to the Science Center. With lead support by Howmet Aerospace Foundation and the PNC Foundation, the 7,400 square-foot exhibition explores how the issues of sustainability, climate change, social justice, and equitable access to resources can shape humanity’s future on Mars and on Earth.

“Guidance from local students helped us realize that what makes space exploration relevant to our community is ultimately the same set of issues as those we face on Earth today,” said Jason

Brown, Henry Buhl, Jr., Director of Carnegie Science Center. “As you walk through the exhibition, you will be challenged to ask questions about what makes a community thrive, how our lives are shaped by our environments, and how exploring Mars will impact life on Earth.”

There are seven experiential zones that demonstrate elements of inhabiting and maintaining a habitable climate on Mars. Guests will experience the following:

- Learn how our understanding of Mars has solidified over time through Sci-Fi and pop culture as well as real-life exploration in **View from Mars**.
- Uncover how climates produce the conditions for life to arise or perish by trying scenarios set to affect both Mars and Earth in **Climatology**.
- Discover potential methods of growing food on Mars and how we might use these same methods to feed ourselves, ethically and sustainably, on Earth in **Martian Garden**.
- Imagine what daily life on Mars might be like by exploring the living space of a future Martian resident in **Martian Living**.
- See guests’ input on a Martian settlement come to life with physical and digital building models constructed regularly in **Dream Big: Space**.
- Learn about the formative space exploration ecosystem in Pittsburgh, how Pittsburgh companies are contributing to future research, and about local space career opportunities in **Pittsburgh in Mars**.
- Control a Martian rover, similar to ones on Mars’ surface, to seek out various signs of life and water in **Search for Life**.

Mars: The Next Giant Leap, a \$4.44 million project, will complement Buhl Planetarium and the Science Center’s vast array of STEM programming that targets career readiness.

“Above all, this exhibition demonstrates that space can be accessible to anyone who wants it. It takes more than rocket scientists to explore other planets. It takes artists and welders, marketers, and accountants. There is room for everyone,” Brown added.

The Science Center’s pathways and programs connected to *Mars: The Next Giant Leap* will allow new audiences of young people to see themselves as activists, artists, makers, inventors, healers, and thoughtful connectors in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. With the successful launch of Artemis I on Nov. 16, more opportunities will arise as NASA is closer to sending the first astronauts to Mars.

For more information, visit carnegiesciencecenter.org/exhibits/mars.

Carnegie Science Center

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

Accessibility: Features for All

Carnegie Science Center welcomes all visitors. We work to assist visitors with disabilities in obtaining reasonable and appropriate accommodations, and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities. We welcome visitors in wheelchairs on the deck of our USS Requin (SS 481) submarine. Below-deck visits require full mobility. Hearing assistance devices are available for The Rangos Giant Cinema. Please ask when you buy your ticket.

Please note that requests for accommodations should be made at least two weeks prior to your visit. For specific questions about wheelchairs, strollers, or other programmatic or equipment needs, see the ticket counter located on the first floor of the main building or contact Customer Service at 412.237.1641 or info@carnegiesciencecenter.org. Please contact Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's Accessibility Coordinator with concerns regarding accessibility for visitors with disabilities at the museums. On weekdays, call 412.622.6578 or email accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org.

About Howmet Aerospace Foundation

Howmet Aerospace Foundation invests in STEM and technical education and workforce development initiatives, with an emphasis on increased access to STEM fields for underrepresented individuals. It is the independently endowed charitable arm of Howmet Aerospace.

About PNC Foundation

The PNC Foundation, which receives its principal funding from The PNC Financial Services Group (www.pnc.com), actively supports organizations that provide services for the benefit of communities in which it has a significant presence. The foundation focuses its philanthropic mission on early childhood education and community and economic development, which includes the arts and culture and promotion of racial and social justice. Through Grow Up Great, its signature cause that began in 2004, PNC has created a bilingual \$500 million, multi-year initiative to help prepare children from birth to age 5 for success in school and life.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a family of four dynamic, distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. The museums reach 1.5 million people a year through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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