



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Red Rover, Red Rover, Send Challenger Flight Directors on Over

For the first time, Challenger Space Center will offer Assembly Programs in schools for large student groups. The Opportunity program involves hands-on activities including designing mission patches, making space helmets and teambuilding activities. Challenger flight directors will travel to schools during August, September and October to do an entertaining, educational, school year kick-off teaching kids about the universe, the space program and how to “reach for the stars.”

Program options are as follows:

**Spirit Program** (One-Hour School Assembly)

Inspirational Remarks from a Flight Director  
Reaching for the Stars  
Importance of School Learning  
Student Achievement  
Program includes:  
Planets & Solar Systems or Living and working in Space (visuals included)  
Current events in space (Mars, Mars, Mars)  
Flyer with activity to take home  
Astronaut Appearance (school staff)

**Opportunity Program** (All School Assembly,

divided into three one-hour programs)  
- Inspirational Remarks from a Flight Director  
- Reaching for the Stars  
- Hands-on Activities  
- Importance of School Learning  
- Student Achievement  
- Grade appropriate activities on-site:  
- Planets & Solar Systems (visuals included)  
- Learning the laws of gravity with whirlybirds  
- Demonstrations of life as an astronaut  
- Current events in space (Mars, Mars, Mars)  
- Astronaut Appearance (school staff)  
- Q&A session for students

Teachers can call 623.322.2037 or email [scheduler@azchallenger.net](mailto:scheduler@azchallenger.net) to book their reservation. Cost is \$350 for the Spirit Program and \$1200 for the Opportunity Program.

The Challenger Space Center, the northwest Valley’s premiere space-science education facility, is the first Smithsonian Institution affiliate in greater Phoenix. Along with being voted a West Valley Treasure by WESTMARC, the Challenger Space Center has been honored with the following awards: 2003 Best Place to See Stars, *The New Times*; 2002 Best Science Lesson from the *Arizona Republic*; and 2002 First Place Best of the West Award for K-12 Education for the Smithsonian Education Conference. The Challenger Space Center is conveniently located at 21170 North 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, north of Union Hills, just off Loop 101, with easy access to and from the entire metropolitan area. Information: [www.azchallenger.org](http://www.azchallenger.org) or call 623.322.2001.

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