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## Challenger Space Center now Accepting Reservations for the Hubble Space Telescope Field Trips

Looking up at the night sky, it's only natural to wonder about the universe. Where did distant stars, majestic galaxies and orbiting planets come from? How do they evolve? How big is the universe? These are questions that will be addressed in the Challenger Space Center's Hubble Space Telescope Field Trip program for students. With the launch of the Hubble Space Telescope in 1990, our understanding of the universe has greatly expanded. From its vantage point above the Earth's atmosphere, the Hubble Space Telescope continuously reveals exciting new information about the cosmos.

Hubble Space Telescope: New Views of the Universe, a Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition, will offer students the opportunity to experience the universe through the eyes of the world's best known observatory – the Hubble Space Telescope. Featuring the best of Hubble's beautiful images, *Hubble Space Telescope* employs videos and interactive components to take students on a tour of the universe and to let them experience other planets, exploding stars, ancient galaxies and black holes. The exhibition explores the telescope, its history and purpose, its anatomy and operation, and the servicing performed by astronauts to maintain and upgrade the telescope as new technology becomes available. Students will explore space through the Hubble Space Telescope's eye with vivid images that inspire learning about planets, comets, stars, galaxies, and intergalactic space.

To book a field trip for this extraordinary exhibit, contact Anita Tagle at 623.322.2037 or [scheduler@azchallenger.net](mailto:scheduler@azchallenger.net) This exhibit is partially sponsored by Lockheed Martin Management Data Systems and Southwest Airlines.

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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