



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Paula Hubbs Cohen
September 25, 2003
623.412.9799
paula.cohen@cox.net

CHALLENGER SPACE CENTER NAMES TWO NEW DIRECTORS

The Challenger Space Center has named two new Directors to its staff.

Kelsea Vescova has been named to the position of Director of Marketing. Vescova comes to the Challenger Center from the Arizona Office of Tourism, where she was Tourism Development Manager. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Baylor University, and has extensive experience in the tourism, hospitality, special events, and chamber of commerce industries. She begins her new duties at Challenger on September 30.

Randall (Randy) Harmsen has been named to the new position of Director of Finance and Administration. Harmsen comes to the Challenger Center from Rural Metro Corporation, where he was Vice President of Finance/Principal Financial Officer. He is a Certified Public Accountant, and holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Arizona State University. Harmsen has an extensive background in financial planning and reporting, general accounting, budgeting, and information systems. He also begins his new duties at Challenger on September 30.

The Challenger Space Center's mission is to inspire, excite, and educate people of all ages about the mysteries and wonders of space, science, and the universe in which we live. The Challenger Center is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. The Center has won the following awards: Best Science Lesson from the Arizona Republic; Best Place to See Stars from the New Times; First Place Best of the West Award for K-12 Education for the Smithsonian Educators Conference; and West Valley Treasure, WESTMARC. The Center is conveniently located at 21170 North 83rd Avenue, north of Union Hills, just off Loop 101, with easy access to and from the entire Valley. Information: 623-322-2001; or visit www.azchallenger.org.

###