

NORTHROP GRUMMAN FOUNDATION TO SPONSOR SPACE EXHIBIT AND STEM PROGRAMMING AT MARYLAND SCIENCE CENTER

BALTIMORE, MD, August 6, 2024 - The Maryland Science Center has received a \$500,000 grant from the Northrop Grumman Foundation to sponsor a new exhibit on space, now under development and scheduled to open in late 2025. This gift will also support ongoing STEM programming at the Maryland Science Center.

The Northrop Grumman Foundation will be the presenting sponsor of the to-be-named exhibit, which will cover themes including the planet Earth, life beyond Earth and space exploration. Dozens of interactive components will also explore and explain concepts such as gravity, revolution vs. rotation, asteroids, black holes and infinity. There will also be interactive components where Maryland Science Center visitors will build and launch their own rockets, perform everyday tasks, wear space gloves and operate a robotic arm.

The 5,000 square foot exhibit will replace the entire *Our Place in Space* exhibit on the museum's second floor.

"We're grateful to the Northrop Grumman Foundation for supporting our unique brand of informal science education," said Mark Potter, Maryland Science Center president and CEO. "As with all of our exhibits, the space exhibit will not be a linear journey. Our visitors, both families and groups of schoolchildren, will work together, learn from each other and think about the topics and the concepts they're exploring. The Northrop Grumman Foundation understands how meaningful and impactful these types of experiences can be."

"The Northrop Grumman Foundation's gift toward this upcoming exhibit will further open the science of space to Maryland's current and future explorers, allowing them to discover and imagine what exists beyond our world," said Brandon White, Maryland Science Center trustee and vice president and general manager, tactical space systems, Northrop Grumman. "The Maryland Science Center continues to have an impact on children of all ages, and we are proud to partner with them to inspire curiosity in science, math and engineering for the next generation."

In its more than 30 years of supporting the Maryland Science Center, Northrop Grumman and the Northrop Grumman Foundation have contributed to many of the Science Center's most important initiatives, including previous capital campaigns, sponsorship of the Science Center's annual Solstice fundraising gala and corporate membership. Most recently, Northrop Grumman partnered with Maryland Science Center educators to lead public activities on the Inner Harbor promenade during Fleet Week in June.