



MEDIA ALERT
For Immediate Release
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CARNEGIESCIENCE CENTER WELCOMES VISITORS “BACK TO THE MOON”
VISITORS WILL ENJOY MOON MOVIE, MEET TEAMS VYING FOR GOOGLE LUNAR XPRIZE

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 31, 2014 – Many people have dreamed of humankind's return to the moon. Carnegie Science Center wants to introduce space exploration fans to some of the people trying to make that dream a reality.

On Saturday, Feb. 8, the Science Center will host **Back to the Moon Day**. For the price of regular admission, visitors will have a chance to meet with members of Pennsylvania's two teams who are working on robotic spacecraft designed to travel to the Moon. These two teams—Lunar Lion, from Penn State University, and Astrobotic, from CMU spinoff Astrobotic Technology – are among the 18 currently active competitors worldwide vying for the Google Lunar XPRIZE.

The Google Lunar XPRIZE is igniting a new era of lunar exploration by offering the largest international incentive prize of all time. A total of \$30 million in prizes is available to the first privately funded teams to safely land a robot on the surface of the Moon and have that robot travel 500 meters over the lunar surface and send images and data back to Earth.

Along with meeting with team members, visitors will enjoy a screening of *Back To The Moon For Good*, a 25-minute film about the Google Lunar XPRIZE competition and the history of space exploration. The movie will be shown at 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm, and 3:30 pm in Buhl Planetarium, followed by brief remarks by members of the Astrobotic and Lunar Lion teams.

Representatives of the Astrobotic and Lunar Lion teams will also be on hand at information tables in the Buhl Lobby from 11 am – 5 pm. The Astrobotic team is bringing a small robotic rover, about the size of a large beach ball.

For more information about Back to the Moon Day and other Science Center programs, visit CarnegieScienceCenter.org or call 412.237.3400 for information.

About 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.

About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums dedicated to exploration through art and science: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. Annually, the museums reach more than 1.2 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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