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Team Endeavour E-News

1 message

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California ScienCenter
Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center

Team Endeavour News

December 29, 2016

President's Message

As we reach the end of 2016, I want to once again thank you, our Team Endeavour donors, for your support of the California Science Center and the EndeavourLA Campaign to create the Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center. It's friends like you who make it possible for us to continue to grow as a world-class organization, and we are truly grateful for your belief in our mission and our vision for the future.

2016 has been a year of milestones, most notably the homecoming of ET-94, the last remaining flight-qualified space shuttle External Tank, which will be part of Endeavour's awe-inspiring "ready to launch" vertical display. We've also finished construction documents for the future Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center, completed final design for the educational exhibits, and acquired almost all of the major artifacts on our wish list for this incredible expansion. So much progress has been made, but we still have work to do to advance our EndeavourLA Campaign toward our ambitious $250 million goal and move forward with construction on this next transformational stage of the California Science Center's 25-year Master Plan. As one of the most significant civic and educational projects in the region, we look forward to working with the community to make this vision a reality.

From the California Science Center family to yours, warmest wishes for a joyful and prosperous new year!

Jeffrey N. Rudolph
President
California Science Center Foundation

ET-94 Is Ready for Its Close-Up in New Photo Exhibit

When ET-94 made its journey home last spring, renowned photographer and former Los Angeles District Attorney Gil Garcetti documented it every step of the way. From leaving NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in Louisiana, to traveling by barge through the Panama Canal, to docking in Marina del Rey, then on through the

streets of Inglewood and L.A. to the California Science Center, Garcetti and his camera captured the dramatic and inspiring story of ET-94's homecoming. *Mission 26: ET Comes Home, Photographs by Gil Garcetti* is a new exhibit featuring over 30 photographs that chronicle the historic transport. It's located in the newly renamed Endeavour Together gallery, where guests can see, touch and interact with a variety of artifacts and exhibits about Endeavour and the space shuttle program before heading down to the Samuel Oschin Pavilion to see Endeavour itself (and ET-94 right outside!). We hope you enjoy this wonderful addition to the gallery!

Air and Space Volunteers: The Heart of the Endeavour Experience

Since arriving at the California Science Center in 2012, Endeavour continues to inspire millions of guests every year. But the Endeavour experience is about so much more than just seeing the shuttle擁t's about science learning. And no one makes learning about Endeavour, the shuttle program and the science of aerospace as fascinating as the California Science Center's Air and Space volunteers do! The Science Center's volunteer program includes 300 individuals ranging in age from 16 all the way up to 92. Nearly 100 volunteers work in Air and Space specifically, including Martin Milden, who can be seen in the photo at right speaking with several curious guests about Endeavour. Marty worked at Aerospace Corp. and was part of an evaluation team for the first nine shuttle missions.

Air and Space volunteer Coretta Harris has been part of the team since Endeavour's arrival. She is also a veteran systems engineer in the aerospace industry. While interacting with the guests is Coretta's favorite thing about volunteering, she also sees the importance of what the Endeavour experience can offer every visitor and is thrilled to contribute to it as a volunteer in the Samuel Oschin Pavilion. "I like the fact that one of the reasons we got Endeavour was to use it as a teaching tool," she explains. "We need more kids to get involved in STEM."

It's not just STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) professionals who are part of the Air and Space volunteer team, however; it includes high school students, retirees, teachers and more. Everyone in the program participates in monthly trainings where they provide each other with insights and information not only about air and space, but also in guest services and other topics necessary for working with the public. This close-knit group happily share their diverse knowledge and experiences, as well as their friendliness and kindness, with Science Center guests and with one another.

So, the next time you're in the Samuel Oschin Pavilion taking in the awesome sight of Endeavour, be sure to say hello to any of the fantastic Air and Space volunteers, who wear teal Science Center polo shirts. They'll be thrilled to chat, answer any questions you may have and share some fascinating facts about Endeavour and more!

Latest Acquisitions Are Just "Plane" Cool

In addition to ET-94's historic homecoming, we've achieved another great milestone this year: almost all of the artifacts on our wish list for the Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center have been acquired. Some of the newest are two fascinating and historic planes that not only look impressive, but provide some fantastic lessons about aerodynamics and technology. The first is a Grumman F-11F Tiger jet fighter, pictured at right. This plane will be on long-term loan through the National Naval Museum and is a key example of a plane that uses precision aircraft control, which has led to breakthroughs in aircraft maneuverability. The Blue Angels Flight Team, which famously shows precision control in action, used F-11F aircraft until 1969. To reflect this storied history, the Tiger that will be in the Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center will be painted as a Blue Angel during its restoration work.

The second recent major acquisition is a North American F-100D Sabre jet fighter. This was the first operational supersonic fighter, meaning that it could go faster than the speed of sound without having to dive to get an assist from gravity. Built for speed, this jet is one that demonstrates that flying faster and stealthier with more control leads to experimentation and advances in airplane shape and materials that affect the forces of flight.

With these latest acquisitions and the other progress we've made in 2016, we are so excited for what 2017 has in store for the Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center project, and can't wait to share more with our Team Endeavour members as we continue to move forward.