



press

kansas cosmosphere
and space center

kit

COSMOSPHERE

KANSAS COSMOSPHERE & SPACE CENTER

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cosmo.org

introduction

When Hutchinson civic leader and amateur astronomer Patricia Brooks Carey first opened the Hutchinson Planetarium in 1962, no one envisioned her dream would evolve into the world-renowned space museum it is today.

The Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center, which first made its start in the old Poultry Building on the Kansas State Fairgrounds, takes visitors on a journey from the Earth to the Moon...and beyond. Through a combination of artifacts, films, and replicas, the Hall of Space Museum captures the amazing story of the U.S./Soviet Space Race, while the Carey IMAX® Dome Theater, Justice Planetarium, interactive exhibit and live demonstration shows add imagery to patrons' educational experiences.

QUICK FACTS:

- Size: 105,000 square feet
- Attendance: 150,000 visitors per year

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

- One of the first affiliates of the Smithsonian Institution
- Named one of the eight wonders of Kansas in nation-wide poll
- Recipient of the U.S. Space Foundation's Education Achievement Award
- Named an official project of Save America's Treasures by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the White House.

contacts

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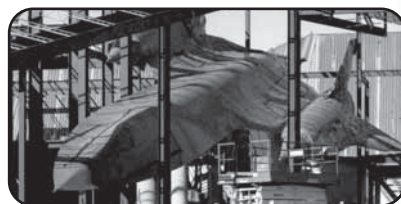
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This mural by world-renowned space artist Robert McCall honors the dream and vision of Cosmosphere founder Patty Carey.



The Kansas Cosmosphere was constructed around the enormous SR-71A Blackbird that is showcased in the lobby.

“The Cosmosphere is an *amazing museum* that allows visitors to appreciate the history of *space travel*, while inspiring all of us to continue that *spirit of exploration.*”

— Captain Walter “Wally” Schirra, USN, (Ret.)
The only astronaut to fly in all three of the nation's pioneering space programs: pilot, Mercury Atlas 8; command pilot, Gemini VI; command pilot, Apollo VII.





German Gallery



Replica of Chuck Yeager's X-1



Mercury-Atlas 1 Capsule

basic facts

- Every year, approximately 150,000 people visit the Cosmosphere from all 50 states and dozens of foreign countries.
- The Cosmosphere is Kansas' only affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and was recently voted one of the eight wonders of Kansas in a nation-wide poll.
- The Cosmosphere was founded in 1962 as the Hutchinson Planetarium.

GALLERY OVERVIEW / ARTIFACTS

- The Hall of Space Museum offers four galleries – German, Cold War, Mollett Early Spaceflight and Apollo – that tell the chronological story of the Space Race.
- Significant artifacts include the actual Apollo 13 command module *Odyssey*, *Liberty Bell 7* Mercury spacecraft, flown Gemini X spacecraft, *SR-71A Blackbird Spy Plane*, flown unmanned Russian Vostok and rare V-1 and V-2 rockets.

RESTORATION AND REPLICATION

- As the only location designated by the Smithsonian Institution to restore flown U.S. spacecraft, the Cosmosphere's restoration projects have included the Apollo 13 command module *Odyssey* and *Liberty Bell 7* Mercury spacecraft.
- The Cosmosphere builds exhibits and replica space hardware for other museums and for the Hollywood film industry.

EDUCATION AND CAMPS

- The Cosmosphere offers countless educational programs: specialized field trips, workshops, merit badge programs for boy and girl scouts, and community outreach programs.
- Throughout the summer, the Cosmosphere holds camp programs for all ages, including the Cosmosphere's flagship camp program, the Future Astronaut Training Program



Lunar Space Suits – the A7L and the A7L-B

ATTRACTIONS

- The Cosmosphere is home to five unique attractions: the Hall of Space Museum, housing the most significant collection of U.S. and Russian space artifacts in the world; the Justice Planetarium, a dome-shaped classroom where attendants learn about astronomy; Dr. Goddard's Lab, a live demonstration of early rocket technology; the Carey IMAX® Dome Theater, the 12th IMAX® theater built in the world; The Astronaut Experience; and summer astronaut training camps.



Wally Schirra space suit

***The Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center,
Honoring the past and inspiring the future of space exploration.***



Volga airlock



Redstone Atomic Warhead



Apollo 13 Command Module

attractions

HALL OF SPACE MUSEUM

At the Cosmosphere, visitors experience the unbiased, definitive story of the Space Race. With a U.S. space artifact collection second only to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and the largest collection of Russian space artifacts outside of Moscow, the Hall of Space Museum is known by space enthusiasts worldwide.

The Hall of Space Museum is one of only three museums in the world to display flown spacecraft from all three early-manned American space programs – Mercury (*Liberty Bell 7*), Gemini (*Gemini X*) and Apollo (*Apollo 13*).

CAREY IMAX® DOME THEATER

As the 12th IMAX® theater built in the world, the Carey IMAX® Dome Theater wraps up, down and around its audience. The 44-foot screen is perforated with thousands of tiny holes that allow digital surround sound to stream throughout the theater.

JUSTICE PLANETARIUM

In the Justice Planetarium, a star ball and projection system display the night sky onto a large overhead domed screen. The planetarium features a multimedia exploration of the solar system, navigational technology, deep space and astronomical research.

DR. GODDARD'S LAB

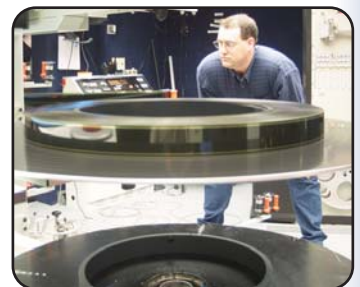
This live demonstration show of early rocket technology transports audiences back to the 1930s lab of Dr. Robert Goddard, the pioneer of modern rocketry and, in a humorous and entertaining way, teaches the audience about how today's rockets really work.



Dr. Goddard's Lab



Justice Planetarium



Carey IMAX® Dome Theater



education & camps

The Cosmosphere's educational programs - specialized field trips, camps, workshops, scouting programs, and community outreach - emphasize teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking and creativity while teaching the value of space science and aviation education.

Throughout the school year, the Cosmosphere also hosts merit badge programs for thousands of boy and girl scouts from around the Midwest. Badge opportunities include (but are not limited to) weather, aviation, astronomy, science sleuth and space exploration.

CAMP

Throughout the summer, the Cosmosphere offers nine camp programs for students and adults age 6 to 101. Campers have the opportunity to learn the basics of rocketry and robotics, undergo g-force training, and pilot simulated space shuttle missions.

In addition, campers in the Future Astronaut Training Program can earn open water SCUBA certification; experience ropes course training; and travel to Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas and Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., for behind-the-scenes tours of NASA facilities.

INVESTIGATE SPACE:

For students entering grades 2, 3 and 4
5-day commuter camp (half days)

TAKEOFF:

For students entering grades 3, 4 and 5
5-day commuter camp (one overnight stay)

MARS ACADEMY:

For students entering grades 5 and 6
3-day residential camp

OVERNIGHT SPACE ADVENTURE:

For students entering grades 4, 5 and 6
One-night only

FUTURE ASTRONAUT TRAINING PROGRAM (FATP):

For students entering grades 7, 8, 9 and 10
5-day residential camp

ADULT ASTRONAUT ADVENTURE:

For adults age 18 and higher
3-day commuter camp

INTER-GENERATIONAL ELDERHOSTEL:

For adults age 55+ and their grandchildren
5-day commuter camp

“Our daughter
loved camp!
She has a
real excitement
about all things
“space” now.
She also has a
renewed interest
in *science.*”

— Anonymous, Kansas





Apollo 13 restoration.



Spacecraft restoration.

restoration & replication

The Cosmosphere operates the world's leading space artifact restoration and replication facility and is the only location designated by the Smithsonian Institution to restore flown U.S. spacecraft.

Museums frequently contact the Cosmosphere for exhibit production and artifact restoration and replication. The restoration team's work can be seen at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air & Space Museum in Washington, D.C.; NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas; and Evergreen Aviation Museum in McMinnville, Oregon.

The Cosmosphere's replication talents have also been recognized by the Hollywood film industry. The Cosmosphere's craftsmen produced approximately 80 percent of the space hardware used in the Academy Award-winning movie *Apollo 13*. Other projects include sets, props, and technical assistance for Tom Hanks' HBO miniseries *From the Earth to the Moon* and his 2005 IMAX® film, *Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon*.

Examples of Spacecraft restored by the Cosmosphere

- Liberty Bell 7, Gus Grissom's Mercury spacecraft
(on display at the Cosmosphere)
- Apollo 13 Command Module Odyssey
(on display at the Cosmosphere)
- Gemini XII
(on display at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago)
- Gemini VI
(on display at the Oklahoma Historical Society)
- Gemini X
(on display at the Cosmosphere)
- Mercury 10
(on display at the Evergreen Aviation Museum in Oregon)



Liberty Bell - Before restoration



Liberty Bell - After restoration

"NASM (National Air and Space Museum)

*values its close relationship
with the Cosmosphere,
notably in the
restoration of artifacts."*

— Dr. Michael Neufeld, chair of the Space History Division of the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum

The Cosmosphere has
"a world-wide reputation for being the
restoration center for the *world."*

— General John Dailey, director of the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum



German Gallery



Liberty Bell 7 Mercury Capsule



Actual Apollo 13 Command Module

gallery overview/artifacts

GERMAN GALLERY

In creating the ultimate weapons of war, Hitler's Germany laid the groundwork for future space travel.

Significant artifacts

- Only complete set of Germany's "Vengeance" weapons: V-1 ("buzz bomb") and V-2 rocket in America.

COLD WAR GALLERY

Chronicling the first steps of both the U.S. and Soviet space programs, this gallery brings to life the Cold War standoff between the superpowers and the early drama of the Space Race.

Significant artifacts

- Replica Bell X-1 Rocket Plane used in the movie *The Right Stuff*
- Sputnik I (flight-ready back up)
- Sputnik II (engineering model)
- Explorer satellite (flight-ready back up)
- Sonic Wind II Rocket Sled
- Redstone Atomic Warhead

MOLLETT EARLY SPACEFLIGHT GALLERY

Visitors come face-to-face with American heroes ... and Soviet secrets. Actual spacecraft, hardware, spacesuits and training gear from the American and Russian programs capture the ingenuity, accomplishment, and tension of the times as two Cold War enemies competed in the race to the Moon.

Significant artifacts

- Flown *Liberty Bell 7* Mercury spacecraft
- Flown Gemini X spacecraft
- Flown Russian Vostok spacecraft
- Replica Voskhod with flight-ready Volga airlock
- 109-foot Titan rocket (flight-ready back up)

APOLLO GALLERY

From Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon to Gene Cernan's last steps on the lunar surface, this gallery embodies the world's most amazing technological achievement: America's presence the Moon.

Significant artifacts

- Flown Apollo 13 command module *Odyssey*
- Apollo space suits
- One of the two original Apollo White Rooms
- Moon rock from the Apollo II mission
- Full-size Lunar Module and Lunar Rover replicas

*“The Cosmosphere
has one of the
best space museums
in the
United States.”*

— Dr. Michael Neufeld, author of *Von Braun: Dreamer of Space, Engineer of War* and chair of the Space History Division of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.



In the lobby, the Cosmosphere also proudly features a flown SR-71A Blackbird Spy Plane, T-38 training jet and a full-scale Space Shuttle replica.