



CHABOT SPACE & SCIENCE CENTER RECEIVES BUZZ ALDRIN SPACE EDUCATION AWARD

—SpotBeam Award from the California Space Authority Recognizes Education Programs—

OAKLAND, CA (December 5, 2005) — Chabot Space & Science Center received this year's Buzz Aldrin Space Education Award given by the California Space Authority (CSA) in an awards ceremony held on December 2. The California Space Enterprise SpotBeam Awards celebrate the many achievements of California's broad, diverse space enterprise community, recognizing California's wealth of intellectual capital, scientific resources, technical innovation and entrepreneurial spirit. The SpotBeam Awards are CSA's highest honor and bestow recognition on space enterprise community leaders who have made extraordinary contributions to California and U.S. leadership in the international space arena. The award was given to Chabot in recognition of its high quality astronomy and space science education programs that reach more than 50,000 students, 2,000 teachers and 150,000 public visitors each year. Through its unique, hands-on approach to science education, the Center inspires students to study math, science and engineering, which are the necessary building blocks for the nation's future space workforce.

"We are very pleased to be this year's recipient of the special award," commented Alex Barnett, Chabot's Executive Director. "It is Chabot's mission to inspire youth to expand their horizons, engage their imagination, and give them the educational tools so that they may develop and realize new dreams. Perhaps someday a child who visited Chabot will be the first person to land on Mars, be the creator of new robotic technologies, or invent renewable energy sources. We believe it's vital to train today's youth for tomorrow's opportunities."

Chabot's space-related and astronomy programs include its Challenger Learning Center, a simulated space capsule and mission control that provides a team-oriented approach to "flying" a mission to the Moon, or a comet, or the planet Mars. The Center also offers an array of astronomy classes available for school groups, such as Surviving in Space, Moonstruck and Planet Trek. Chabot also offers a variety of high quality professional development programs for teacher in its summer workshops. Chabot's after school programs, Techbridge for girls and Galaxy Explorers for underserved youth, reach audiences who may not normally be interested in the space sciences and provide them with new ways to connect to the world of technology and engineering.

California space enterprise encompasses a diverse community, including those engaged in production, launch and the operation of space systems for public and private use. Stakeholders also include organizations that deliver commercial space services. As an economic sector, space enterprise in California represents approximately 24% of the \$83 billion annual global space market, and produces over 60% of the world's satellites.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The California Space Authority (CSA) is a nonprofit corporation representing the commercial, civil, and national defense/homeland security interests of California's diverse space enterprise community in all four domains: industry, government, academia, and workforce. Designated as California's Spaceport Authority, CSA is a member-based "enterprise" association working closely with stakeholders statewide to facilitate California's competitiveness and space enterprise vitality. For more information, visit www.californiaspaceauthority.com.

Chabot Space and Science Center, a Smithsonian affiliate, is nonprofit teaching and learning center focusing on astronomy and the inter-relationships of all the sciences. Its observatory, planetarium, exhibits, and natural park setting are a place where a diverse population of students, teachers, and the public can imagine, understand, and learn to shape their future through science.

For more information, call (510) 336-7300, or visit www.chabotspace.org

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