

## **Chabot Space & Science Center Welcomes New Board Members**

— **Former NASA Astronaut and Venture Capitalist Join Foundation Board of Directors** —

18 October 2005 -- (Oakland, CA) Dr. Edward E. Penhoet and Garrett Gruener, Co-Chairs of Chabot Space & Science Center's Foundation Board, have announced the election of two new Board members: **Dr. Millie Hughes-Fulford**, Director of the Laboratory of Cell Growth at University of California, San Francisco and former NASA Science Astronaut Payload Specialist; and **Reese Jones**, founder of Netopia and co-founder of Berkeley Macintosh Users Group (BMUG).

"I am delighted to welcome our new Board members," commented Penhoet. "They bring with them an enthusiasm and a high-level of commitment to the Science Center. I look forward to working with them as we continue to develop our space-related exhibits and planetarium shows, and expand on our hands-on approach to science learning."

**Dr. Hughes-Fulford** received her B.S. in Chemistry and Biology at Tarleton State University, Texas and a Ph.D. in Radiation and Biochemistry from the Texas Woman's University. Selected as a payload specialist by NASA in January 1983, she flew in June 1991 aboard STS-40 Spacelab Life Sciences, the first Spacelab mission dedicated to biomedical studies. She was the Principal Investigator on a series of missions that flew in 1996-1997 to examine the root causes of osteoporosis that occurs in astronauts during spaceflight. She is currently involved in gene regulation studies in an experiment that will be going up on the Soyuz/ISS mission in September 2006. Dr. Hughes-Fulford is an Adjunct Professor at the University of California Medical Center at San Francisco where she continues her research. As the Director of the Laboratory for Cell Growth and Scientific Advisor to the Under Secretary of Veteran's Affairs, she studies the control of human prostate cancer growth and the regulation of bone and lymphocyte activation. "Chabot is a place that encourages students to reach for the stars," commented Dr. Hughes-Fulford. "I am enthusiastic about Chabot's educational programs, especially Techbridge, a program that encourages girls in technology, science and engineering. Programs like these are vitally important to building tomorrow's workforce."

**Reese Jones** is an inventor, serial entrepreneur and venture capital investor. He founded Netopia, a leader in next generation broadband and wireless internet connectivity technologies. He also co-founded and served several years as operating President of BMUG, a nonprofit educational computer organization. He studied biophysics at UC Berkeley and conducted research at UCSF and Lawrence Berkley Lab in nuclear medical imaging of brain biochemistry defects in humans. He is a Fellow at the UC Berkeley Business School, Lester Center for innovation and entrepreneurship and has been active in an advisory capacity with a number of nonprofits, university groups, venture groups and businesses. "Chabot's digital

dome, with its expert human navigators, guides and hands-on instrument exhibits offer people a unique view to understanding space—both inner and outer,” said Jones. “We are now entering a kind of “Golden Age” of space privatization, commercialization and entrepreneurship—similar to the 1849 – 1920 age of terrestrial transportation and communication. Parallel lessons can be learned from this history to help Chabot’s future.”

Chabot Space & Science Center, a joint powers agency, is the continuation and expansion of Oakland, California’s public Chabot Observatory that has served San Francisco Bay Area schools and citizens with astronomy and science education programs for 120 years. Its mission is to engage, inform and inspire people about Earth and space, and is a place where they can learn to shape their future through science and technology. The Chabot Space & Science Center Foundation is a separate nonprofit corporation that receives contributions, donations and other funds from various sources for the benefit of the Science Center. Its role is to provide the financial and in-kind resources required by the Science Center to fulfill its mission.

**Chabot Space and Science Center** is a 501c3 nonprofit interactive science 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. The Center is located at 10000 Skyline Blvd. in Oakland’s Joaquin Miller Park.

**For more information, call (510) 336-7300, or visit [www.chabotspace.org](http://www.chabotspace.org)**

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