



SENATOR JOHN HEINZ

HISTORY CENTER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

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History Center to Host Blockbuster Smithsonian Exhibit on the Apollo 11 Mission

-The museum will be one of just four Smithsonian Affiliates to host the national tour of Destination Moon-

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 22, 2017 – The Senator John Heinz History Center, a proud Smithsonian affiliate, today announced that it will serve as the northeast host for the national tour of ***Destination Moon: The Apollo 11 Mission***, a traveling exhibition organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), from Sept. 29, 2018 through Feb. 18, 2019.

The History Center is one of just four Smithsonian-affiliated museums that will host the ***Destination Moon*** exhibition during a two-year national tour, while the National Air and Space Museum completes extensive renovations leading up to the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission in 2019.

Featuring dozens of artifacts from the Apollo 11 mission, the exhibition's centerpiece is the Command Module Columbia – the only portion of the historic spacecraft to complete the first mission to land a man on the moon and safely return him to Earth. It will mark the first time in 46 years that the Command Module Columbia will leave the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum.

"The Heinz History Center is honored to host the national tour of Destination Moon," said Andy Masich, president and CEO of the History Center. "It's fitting that the 'Smithsonian's home in Pittsburgh' was selected, since innovations from Pittsburgh companies such as Westinghouse, Alcoa, North American Rockwell, Union Switch & Signal, and others played an important role in putting a man on the moon. We're also thrilled to showcase an iconic piece of American history – the CM Columbia – for thousands of visitors in our region and beyond."

Through dozens of original Apollo 11-flown objects, models, videos and interactives, visitors will learn about the historic journey of the Apollo 11 crew—Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Buzz Aldrin. ***Destination Moon*** will include an interactive 3-D tour, created from high-resolution scans of Columbia performed at the Smithsonian in spring 2016. The interactives will allow visitors to explore the entire craft including its intricate interior, an interior that has been inaccessible to the public until now.

For updates on the ***Destination Moon*** exhibition leading up to the September 2018 launch, please visit HeinzHistoryCenter.org.

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The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in Pennsylvania, presents American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection. The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is a museum within a museum, comprehensively presenting the region's remarkable sports story through hundreds of artifacts and interactive experiences for visitors of all ages. The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the city's Strip District, and are open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The History Center's museum system includes the Sports Museum; the Fort Pitt Museum in historic Point State Park; and Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, a National Historic Landmark located in Avella, Pa. in Washington County. More information is available at HeinzHistoryCenter.org.



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