It's a steamy June morning in the middle of Kansas. Cosmosphere campers from Space 501 are hunched over rectangles of cold, pressed clay at the ClayWorks building in downtown McPherson. They are working on space-inspired artwork with Disability Supports of the Great Plains artists who are adults with developmental disabilities.

"Try to focus," says Mary, a DSGP client and artist instructor. "This takes time...it doesn't always go right," she adds.

Sierra Green, a camper from Haven, KS, is carving a shuttle into her clay. "I'm not very artistically inclined," she says. "This is definitely a learning experience for me!"

In fact, many of the campers are unsure of their artistic ability.

"I came up with my idea on the spot," says Andrew Swift, a camper from Overland Park, KS. "May have too much detail..." his thought trails off.

But the encouragement keeps coming.

"Do the best you can," instructs Kayla, another DSGP client, to the campers she's working with. "Take ideas from things you see or hear and create your artwork from that."

The art project was new this summer for the Space 501 camp, but as Cosmosphere Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Tracey Tomme explains, it helps fulfill the mission of making all programming at the Cosmosphere more inclusive.

"We feel it’s valuable for our students to understand the skill sets and creativity these artists bring to the table," says Tomme. "Sometimes these students are so bogged down learning the concepts of math and science they forget about the importance of artistic expression. We think blending our future engineers and scientists with more creative thinkers who see the world differently makes everyone’s lives brighter."

Camp counselor, Blake Lee, agrees. "I think this is a really cool collaboration," he says. "I've seen more smiles in the last hour than sometimes I see all camp!"

Lee adds that more than just artistic ability is being stretched by this project. "This is 180 degrees from the ‘normal’ socialization at camp, too. Generally, (the campers) are socializing with people who are very similar to them. This is a completely different situation and really pushing these kids out of their comfort zone."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11
Dillon’s Community Rewards Program
Join the Dillons Reward Program and help the Cosmosphere earn credit!

Dillon’s Community Rewards program allows the Cosmosphere to earn credit for each purchase you make at Dillon’s just by using your Plus Card.

TO ENROLL IN THE COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM:
1. Visit the Dillon’s Community Rewards website at: dillons.com/communityrewards
2. Sign in or Create an account
3. Click “Enroll Now”
4. Enter the Cosmosphere’s 5-digit NPO # JQ325
5. Select the Cosmosphere and click on “Enroll”

DILLONS REWARD PROGRAM FUN FACT:
Twenty-one households who shopped at Dillons between 3/31/2018 and 6/30/2018 have contributed to our $211.62 Dillons rewards! Thanks to those of you who have taken the time to sign up! Breaking the $10,000 a quarter goal is just a click away...

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TRACY TOMMIE, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
STEVEN BIRDALL, Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer
MIMI MEREDITH, Content Vice President of Development and Planned and Chief Development Officer
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NEWSLETTER SUPPORT TEAM:
Michele McCartney, Creative Design + Marketing Manager
Carla Stanfield, Marketing + Development Assistant
Jodie Dietz, from Overland Park, Kansas, is the mother of three girls who have always been interested in science. In her effort to foster that love and provide valuable learning experiences, Dietz decided to enroll them in Cosmosphere camps.

“Cosmosphere Camps are the best kept secret in this state—or even country,” said Dietz. “It’s not always easy to find an environment that encourages, especially girls, to think this way. My kids are treated as knowledgeable and talented. They’re really challenged at Cosmosphere camp,” she said.

Dietz’s oldest daughter, who first attended Space 101 and continued through 501, is now a sophomore at Northeastern University in Boston, studying Environmental Science. She recently participated in a research trip to Iceland to study glaciers and volcanos, and Dietz credits the Cosmosphere for giving her the courage to do so.

“The camps acted as a springboard for her to explore and not be discouraged by failing,” Dietz said. “My girls are so empowered and confident when they leave camp,” she added. “That’s not something they get other places.”

According to Dietz, it’s not just the learning which is unique at the Cosmosphere, but also the energy and passion the camp counselors display.

“These counselors are really invested in science and that is infectious!” she said.

Dietz has been so happy with the experiences her girls have had, that she’s quick to talk up the Cosmosphere to other parents.

“We have brought more and more friends along with our children each summer. My girls are ready to sign up for the next one as soon as camp is over!”
On Saturday, December 1, the Cosmosphere, a Smithsonian-affiliated museum, invites the public to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 8 mission with astronauts and members of the Johnson Space Center Mission Control and crew.

The Earthrising event, which will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Meadowlark Building at the Kansas State Fairgrounds, will consist of a dinner and panel presentation.

A limited number of VIP tickets—which include an opportunity to visit with the NASA guests before the presentation—will be available.

Ticket sales for Cosmosphere members will begin online at cosmo.org/earthrising on October 15, followed by sales to the general public on October 29. Tickets will also be available by calling 620.665.9324. All tickets for Earthrising are non-refundable.


Students participating in a Cosmosphere outreach program build model rockets.

“Transportation is sometimes difficult or expensive to work out and traveling to and from the Cosmosphere in a single school-day is logistically hard as well,” she added.

“This grant makes it easier for us to reach a whole area of the state and for educators to bring Cosmosphere programs and experiences to their students and classrooms,” Tomme said.

Presentations can be performed on site or live streamed to the school. These high-energy programs and hands-on activities are specially designed in conjunction with the school to meet its needs regarding time, grade levels, number of students, and curriculum goals. All Cosmosphere educational programming meets grade and curriculum standards and delivers engaging STEM content in an unforgettable way.

Programs can be adapted to appropriate ages from pre-K through high school and available content ranges from space agriculture to robotics and principles of flight.

To inquire about possible outreach programs, or to schedule your presentation, please contact the Cosmosphere School Programs Manager, Helene Kain, at helene@cosmo.org or call 620.665.9319.

The Cosmosphere is one of four organizations included in this Hansen Foundation enrichment initiative. Learn more at www.danehansenfoundation.org, then click on NWKansas Learns.

CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN
CAMPS ARE FILLING FAST!

Contact the Education Coordinator at camps@cosmo.org or 620.665.9323 or see cosmo.org/camps.
COSMO CAMP ALUMNI: Where are they now?

From Test Pilot to Engineer, to Student to Operations Manager: Check out these amazing alumni!

For more than a year, we’ve been collecting and sharing stories from our past Cosmosphere campers. Along the way, we’ve met scientists, pilots, military personnel, teachers, nurses and camp alumni working in the space industry. Below, you’ll meet another group of intelligent, driven people who feel coming to camp at the Cosmosphere helped inspire them to accomplish their dreams. We hope that in reading their stories, you will find inspiration too.

Marissa Moehring
Camper: 2000, Original Level 2 in 2001, Guinea Pig session of new Level 2 in 2002
Current job: Materials & Process Engineer at TSC (The Spaceship Company), Virgin Galactic sister company. Her job is primarily writing the process specifications (a.k.a. how to build a spaceship) and test plans.

Did experiences at Cosmosphere camp influence your career choices?
Yes and No. I had already decided to enter the space field in 3rd grade, and that’s why I went to (Cosmosphere) camp in Jr. High. Working in teams in camp is definitely the biggest benefit I received - this is not a mission you can do alone, you need to learn to rely on your teammates and trust them.

Advice to students thinking about attending Cosmosphere Camp or entering STEM field:
Short answer: Do it!
Longer answer: Yes, it is hard, especially for girls/women, as there are other subconscious barriers that need to be overcome, but it is rewarding.

Adam Berry
Camper: 1998
Current Job: Operations Manager, Bobcat of Dallas

Did experiences at Cosmosphere camp influence your career choices?
It did not specifically influence my decision to enter my current field; but the experience with scientific thinking and a very technical field has influenced my approach to my current field (business).

Advice to students thinking about attending Cosmosphere Camp or entering STEM field:
A career in STEM fields is one that will probably provide significant stability and personal satisfaction. Scientific fields tend to be more intrinsically fulfilling, in my opinion, and are have been in high demand for as long as I have been working.

Aaron Tobias
Camper: 1992
Current Job: Senior Flight Test Pilot & Chief Pilot, Citation Latitude, Textron Aviation

Did experiences at Cosmosphere camp influence your career choices?
While I wouldn’t say my camp experience changed my career path direction, it certainly helped fuel a passion for flight that had already started to build in me! The camp team-building and problem-solving experience was a great primer for application in the real world engineering profession.

Advice to students thinking about attending Cosmosphere Camp or entering STEM field:
I like to tell kids to dream big, and give it your best in whatever you do! It doesn’t matter if you know what direction you want to go at the moment, if you’re curious or interested in something—go for it and give it your best effort! When along the way, it doesn’t look like what you thought it might be at the start, don’t be discouraged, but be flexible... when you give your best the journey will open up new horizons you didn’t even know existed, and may actually be better than you envisioned.
This summer the Cosmosphere Xtreme camp headed west! This incredible 14-day road trip took campers across Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico and Texas for mountain fun near Denver, tours of University of Colorado Boulder and the Air Force Academy, a trip to the top of Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, scuba training in New Mexico for open water certification at the Blue Hole near Santa Rosa, the Nuclear Museum, Las Cruces and (wait for it….) a tour at the Space Port! No space tour is complete without a stop at Roswell to look for aliens—so they did that too!

A trip of a lifetime!
Chanteal Findling
Camper: 1992
Currently: 3rd Year medical student at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences
Favorite Memories:
I have always been an inquisitive person interested in learning new things. It’s been a “few” years, but I recall learning and having to work through the launch sequence in the simulator. My cousin, Chris, and I spent way too much time in the centrifuge trying to out-spin each other. Not applicable per se, but fun to recall none the less. I also recall getting a jumpsuit that I wore for Halloween several years after attending…long after I had outgrown the suit.
Advice to students thinking about attending Cosmosphere Camp:
It’s a great opportunity to learn about space right here in the Midwest!
Recently:
What was your future career?  I’m a foreman of a directional drilling career?  I attended Cosmosphere Camp in your current career?
I use a lot of communication and leadership skills I learned in camp. I’m a foreman of a directional drilling machine and my skills are to make decisions for a successful shot without hitting existing utilities. I also use a lot of problem solving—as no two shots are the same. I have to consider the grade change, the depths of existing utilities, as well as how deep my product is to be placed underground. Being at camp for so many years, the problems they throw at you during your test and other team challenges are something that I feel one can use later in life.
Advice to students thinking about attending Cosmosphere Camp or entering STEM field:
Attend all the camps you can. The memories you’ll have, the friendships you make and the experiences you’ll have will last a lifetime. To this day, I still enjoy talking about (Cosmosphere) camps and ACE camps. Favorite Memories: I loved my time at the Cosmosphere and I love keeping up with what’s going on there! Also helping to reach out to the next generation of campers & space enthusiasts is something I enjoy.
Justyn Morgan
Camper: 2004-2007
Current job: Foreman/Locator for Infrasource Construction
Do you use skills you learned at Cosmosphere camp in your current career?
I use a lot of the communication and leadership skills I learned in camp. I’m a foreman of a directional drilling machine and my duties are to make decisions for a successful shot without hitting existing utilities. I also use a lot of problem solving—as no two shots are the same. I have to consider the grade change, the depths of existing utilities, as well as how deep my product is to be placed underground. Being at camp for so many years, the problems they throw at you during your test and other team challenges are something that I feel one can use later in life.
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Advice to students thinking about attending Cosmosphere Camp:
It’s a great opportunity to learn about space right here in the Midwest!
After high school, I majored in Pre-Professional Zoology and minored in Chemistry at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. I am now in medical school at KCU. It is a DO medical school and my days for the next couple months will be filled with studying in preparation for my board tests before I embark on rotations in my third year. I am very excited. I admit I’m still rather hopeful that down the road I will be able to combine my passion for medicine with my passion for space and perhaps work as doctor with NASA. I know that these paragraphs are far more than the brief statement you asked for. I was just so excited to hear from you and about how the scholarship has sent 32 kids to the Cosmosphere Camp that I couldn’t resist telling you all about what I have been up to since.
After I won the scholarship I fell so in love that I returned to the Cosmosphere Camp for two more years. A group of us that met the first year even coordinated each of the following years to make sure we all attended the camp at the same time. I am still in contact with a number of them. I also still have my FATP binders with all the information and agendas I received each year. There was nothing quite like getting to spend time at your desk seeing a large group of people who were as passionate about the sciences as I was (and still am). The memories I have of the Cosmosphere Camp are some of my most treasured, and they wouldn’t have been possible without this scholarship. I am forever thankful for it.
As a jr. high student interested in science, Chanteal received a scholarship to attend Cosmosphere camp. Below is a letter she wrote last spring to the scholarship donor, highlighting the importance that gift has made in her life.
Ms. Mohesky Cox,
The scholarship to attend the Cosmosphere Camp was the highlight of my 7th grade year. I fell so in love with the camp and the atmosphere there that I went back for the next two years. A group of us that met the first year even coordinated each of the following years to make sure we all attended the camp at the same time. I am still in contact with a number of them. I also still have my FATP binders with all the information and agendas I received each year. There was nothing quite like getting to spend time at your desk seeing a large group of people who were as passionate about the sciences as I was (and still am). The memories I have of the Cosmosphere Camp are some of my most treasured, and they wouldn’t have been possible without this scholarship. I am forever thankful for it.
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Currently: 3rd Year medical student at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences
Favorite Memories:
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Advice to students thinking about attending Cosmosphere Camp:
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After high school, I majored in Pre-Professional Zoology and minored in Chemistry at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. I am now in medical school at KCU. It is a DO medical school and my days for the next couple months will be filled with studying in preparation for my board tests before I embark on rotations in my third year. I am very excited. I admit I’m still rather hopeful that down the road I will be able to combine my passion for medicine with my passion for space and perhaps work as doctor with NASA. I know that these paragraphs are far more than the brief statement you asked for. I was just so excited to hear from you and about how the scholarship has sent 32 kids to the Cosmosphere Camp that I couldn’t resist telling you all about what I have been up to since.
After I won the scholarship I fell so in love that I returned to the Cosmosphere Camp for two more years. I gained unforgettable memories and lifelong friendships. I am now getting ready to embark on my third year of medical school. I will never be able to thank you enough for the positive impact that receiving the Frank Mohesky Scholarship had on my life. I was happy to hear that the photo album I gave you still brings you joy. I hope you are well and your days are filled with happiness.
Chanteal, middle, pictured with her parents.
Chanteal, middle, pictured with her family, says he hopes his children will become the second generation of Cosmosphere Camp kids.
Jon Berry
Camper: 1998
Current Job: President, Berry Tractor & Equipment
Favorite Memories:
I have always been an inquisitive person interested in learning new things. It’s been a “few” years, but I recall learning and having to work through the launch sequence in the simulator. My cousin, Chris, and I spent way too much time in the centrifuge trying to out-spin each other. Not applicable per se, but fun to recall none the less. I also recall getting a jumpsuit that I wore for Halloween several years after attending…long after I had outgrown the suit.
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Thank you,
Chanteal Findling
Member Spotlight: Linda Tegethoff

Time, Talents and Treasures

Linda Tegethoff, a long-time supporter of the Cosmosphere, sat down to tell us how she got involved and why she has chosen to leave a legacy gift with the organization.

My relationship with the Cosmosphere began with my youngest grandson, Robert Lounbury III attending Cosmosphere Camps. He has attended every one of the camps, including trips to Texas and Florida. Now he is an employee at the Cosmosphere and dating a young woman he met nine years ago at Cosmosphere Camps. He is also completing his college education to become a high school physics teacher. It was especially important for us to have Robert visit us each summer since he was born in England and has traveled a lot due to his mother (my daughter) Michelle Hurst, serving our country with a 21-year United States Air Force career. Robert traveled with her to each duty station except for the six months he stayed with us when she had an “unaccompanied assignment”.

I saw first-hand what a great impact the Cosmosphere programs had on his experience to learn about space exploration and his desire to someday be an engineer in space. Due to his red/green colorblindness we thought silently that might not be an achievable goal, but we encouraged him to learn everything he could. He is now one of the Cosmosphere workers that performs the Dr. Goddard’s Lab programs and has earned much praise for his enthusiastic presentations.

Another important part of my relationship with the Cosmosphere was serving on the Board of Directors for six years and being Chairman of the Board for two of those years. When Dave Claxton called me to request my serving on the Board, I told him I needed time to pray about the decision and speak with my husband, Harold, since I would not take the honor unless I felt I could give the position my enthusiastic attention and serve with excellence. I served with a number of community leaders including Patty Carey, Shorty and Katherine Brown, Dr. Ed Harper, Richard Shank, and many other notable dedicated individuals. It was an outstanding and enlightening experience.

The Cosmosphere has touched my life. While serving on the Board and simultaneously running my financial planning practice as an American Express Financial Advisor, I learned about the American Express charitable matching gifts program. That program gave me the impetus to increase my donations knowing they would be doubled. I encourage anyone who works for a company that might offer a company that might offer a matching gift to pursue the idea and find organizations such as the Cosmosphere to benefit from your gratitude to be living in such a forward-looking community. I believe each of us has a responsibility to give back to the community in whatever ways you choose to make a difference. As a retired financial advisor, I believe it is crucial to set your desires for charitable giving in writing to assure that your wishes are honored. Those you leave behind can know from your example that you made a difference.

Philanthropic engagement connects you to a mission beyond the periphery of your own life. It helps to expand your interests and keeps you engaged in vital causes.

It may provide significant tax benefits, especially when a philanthropic instrument is included in your estate planning. You’ll need to contact your financial consultant to determine the potential impact on your tax liability.

In addition to tax benefits, legacy giving—planning for your support to continue after your death—means your connection to the organizations you care about goes on in perpetuity.

The Cosmosphere is what it is today because of the support of friends like Linda and Harold Tegethoff. And our future will be bright for generations to come thanks to her kind of consideration and planning.

If you’d like information about planned giving or other ways your donations can help the Cosmosphere’s influence continue to grow, contact Chief Development Officer, Mimi Meredith today at 620.665.9379.

Discover more at cosmo.org/giving

What are the benefits of becoming a Cosmosphere Member?

Have you been thinking about becoming a Cosmosphere Member but are unaware of what membership includes?

Here are a few of the perks:

• Free entrance into the Hall of Space Museum
• Discounts on tickets to shows & special events
• Special “Members Only” premiere screenings of new documentaries
• Discounts in the Cosmic Cafe
• Discounts in the Cosmosphere Gift Store
• And more...

For more information on becoming a member of the Cosmosphere, or enrolling your child in the Junior Astronaut Club, contact Maria Erikson, Membership Coordinator, 620.665.9320 or membership@cosmo.org.

Discover more at cosmo.org/membership

 Members include:

- Donna and Roger Basinger
- John and Karla Benedetti
- Janis Blanton
- Chris and Chris Boyd
- Shawn and Rachel Bradley
- Steven and Sandra Brown
- Michael Cate
- William and Dianna Chamberlain
- Jaeyoung Chol and Hyojeong Yang
- Audra and Andrew Connally
- Marilyn Conner
- Darrell Craig
- Craig and Gwyn Crawford
- Matthew and Denise Daugherty
- Daniel de Jong
- Burton Dicht
- William Drexler
- Gerald and Mary Eger
- Zacharias Eger and Seraphina Berry
- Emily Elliot and Brad Kirk
- Lisa Ellis
- Douglas Forrest
- Lloyd Franklin
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- Christopher Glenn and Carrie Hook-Glenn
- Denise Horn
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- Anthony and Raylene Hershberger
- Rick Heschmeyer
- Jenny Hoover
- Deanna Houts
- Philip and Stephanie Howe
- Ben Hutton
- Kyle Jackson
- Fred and Jackie Kast
- Ellie and Shane Katz
- Cory and Megan Kelley
- Tom Kennedy

Cosmosphere employees, Eddie Ibars, gives a tour of our Hydroponic/Aquaponic greenhouse to participants in the Kansas Central First LEGO League “INTO ORBIT” launch event that was held at the Cosmosphere in September.
In November, an unusual NASA aircraft will be flying into Wichita. The Super Guppy, an oversized cargo aircraft resembling a gigantic fish, will arrive to take the first round of restored mission control consoles back to their home in Houston.

Jack Graber, the Cosmosphere’s Vice President of Exhibits and Technology, said the restoration of the consoles thus far has progressed as expected. “We’ve worked on enough consoles, that we really weren’t surprised by anything we found,” he said.

Since January, Graber and the team at SpaceWorks have been busy working on the consoles—the centerpiece of a completely refurbished Mission Operations Control Room at Johnson Space Center. Once fully complete the consoles will be re-animated to display status and warning lights as well as trajectory plots, making them appear as they did during the Apollo-era.

“We will send back this first round of consoles, from the first two rows of Mission Control. Then we’ll get to work on the second round,” Graber explained. “We are all looking forward to beginning on the second set of consoles and really just appreciate being a part of this history,” he added. For more information about the Cosmosphere’s restoration of Historic Mission Control consoles—watch our social media for #historyintheremaking updates.

It’s a bird! It’s a plane!– IT’S THE SUPER GUPPY!

Above: The Aero Spacelines Super Guppy is a large, wide-bodied cargo aircraft that is used for hauling outsize cargo components. (NASA) Below: The Super Guppy being unloaded. (NASA)

DON’T MISS...
SPACEWORKS NEW BRAND VIDEO!
Check it out here: cosmo.org/spaceworks
DON’T MISS THIS!

Rocket Men Book Discussion
With author Robert Kurson
Saturday, December 1 • 10:00 am
Cosmosphere’s Discovery Room

Buy the book at the Cosmosphere Gift Store and get a FREE ticket to the discussion. Or tickets are $5.00 at the door.

NOW AVAILABLE
IN THE COSMOSphere GIFT STORE
Rocket Men: The Daring Odyssey of Apollo 8 and the Astronauts Who Made Man’s First Journey to the Moon by Robert Kurson

Join us for a special screening of
First to the Moon
The Story of Apollo 8

Friday, November 30 at 7:00 pm
CAREY DIGITAL DOME THEATER
$8 PER PERSON
Call for tickets today 620.665.9312

“First to the Moon” is a new documentary film that tells the amazing story of the Apollo 8 mission and the three men that crewed it. Through new animations and restored archival films from NASA, The National Archives, and the Astronaut’s own personal collections, this documentary takes you through time from the upbringing of each crew member and their journey around the Moon in 1968. Join us for a cinematic experience celebrating the 50th anniversary of this historic mission!

firstmoonmovie.com