



From: Cradle of Aviation Museum

Garden City, New York

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For Immediate Release

Cradle of Aviation Museum Receives \$100,000 Grant from Gardiner Foundation to Support Interactive Space Exhibit for Apollo's 50th Anniversary Countdown Celebration

GARDEN CITY, New York – August 27, 2018: The Cradle of Aviation Museum and Education Center is the proud recipient of a \$100,000 grant from the Robert Lion Gardiner Foundation. The grant is being used to support a new traveling exhibit, "Space, A Journey to Our Future" along with supporting programs. The exhibit acknowledges the significant achievements of the past and looks to the future of space exploration. The exhibit will open to the public in mid-September and close in August 2019. It's a substantial addition to the museum as part of its Countdown to Apollo@50 multi-year celebration that includes speakers, activities, and public programs honoring Long Island's contributions to the monumental Apollo program and epic landing of man on the moon in the summer of '69. The Cradle of Aviation is the honored home to 1 of 3 existing lunar modules available on earth for viewing (Long Island's Grumman Corp. designed, built and tested it)

"Space: A Journey to Our Future" is one of the largest and most comprehensive interactive presentations that introduces visitors to today's explorers who are shaping our future in the universe and allows them to literally step into the future of space exploration. In this anniversary year of the Apollo program, there is renewed interest in space, as we look back to remember the stories and triumphs of the past and look to the future to imagine what could be, inspiring hearts and minds of all ages.

- **PURPOSE:** To ignite the desire for discovery, spark imaginations and inspire a new generation of explorers in space.
- **SECTIONS:** The exhibit's content encompasses four themes: 1) Dare to Dream, 2) A Dream Come True, 3) Living the Dream, 4) Dream of Tomorrow
- **EXHIBIT SIZE:** Approximately 5,000 square feet
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EXHIBIT POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Space Exploration Artifacts.** Visitors will see a wide range of artifacts from the space program past and present, presented in context—space suits, lunar rover tire, camera and lunar scoop from Apollo program, early fuel cell, shuttle tiles, etc. Also, artifacts that tell about our fascination with space, such as Jules Verne's "Earth to the Moon," "War of the Worlds" and Life Magazine stories.

- **Today's Space Program.** This interactive area examines the International Space Station, NASA studies in areas such as robonauts, deep space probes, next-generation telescopes, living in space and space tourism. Mars rover model and Mars experience area helps visitors learn about current missions.
- **Lunar Base Camp.** Would-be explorers can literally step into the future and interact aboard a re-created future base camp on the Lunar surface.
- **Create your Own Mission to Mars.** Through hands-on interactive displays and modules, visitors can design their own trip to Mars—from the design of the spacecraft to living quarters to supplies needed (and, find out how successful their trip would likely be).
- **"Future Theatre."** In an immersive media experience, looks far into the future of exploration and deep into space, pondering mysteries to be revealed and questions to be answered.

The Gardiner Foundation and The Cradle of Aviation Museum are both committed to cultivating, fostering, and promoting interest in local history. "At the heart of all museums, partnerships are critical to the sustainability of the institution and in the engagement of community. Through the generous support by organizations like the Robert D.L. Gardiner Foundation, museums and cultural institutes like ours are able to provide dynamic learning experiences for all ages that both inspires our future and helps preserve our history. We are grateful for partners who share in this common aim" Jennifer Baxmeyer Deputy Director.

The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation, established in 1987, primarily supports the study of New York State history. Robert David Lion Gardiner was, until his death in August 2004, the 16th Lord of the Manor of Gardiner's Island, NY. The Gardiner family and their descendants have owned Gardiner's Island since 1639, obtained as part of a royal grant from King Charles I of England. The Foundation is inspired by Robert David Lion Gardiner's personal passion for New York history. For more information, please visit www.rdlgfoundation.org.

The Cradle of Aviation Museum and Education Center is home to over 75 planes and spacecraft representing over 100 years of aviation history and Long Island's only Giant Screen Dome Theater. Long Island and Grumman's role in the Apollo program is the focus of the Cradle of Aviation Museum's celebration, "[Countdown to Apollo at 50](#)", sponsored by The Robert David Lion Foundation. The Museum was recently recognized and listed on New York State's National Register of Historic Places as a significant part of American history. The museum is located on Museum Row, Charles Lindbergh Blvd., in East Garden City. For more information call (516) 572-4111 or visit to www.cradleofaviation.org.

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Will also add video – just need to add to our You Tube channel on Monday morning..

