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**Cape Canaveral's Sands Center Connects Over 60,000 Global & Local Explorers to Its Space Experts for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual NASA International Space Apps Challenge**

**Cape Canaveral, FL, (October 1, 2024)** – The Sands Space History Center at the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station is proud to be hosting the local programming of the NASA International Space Apps Challenge (Space Apps) on October 5 and 6, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day. NASA Headquarters created, and now coordinates, the global hackathon-style team immersion to inspire imagination and innovation in space and on Earth. This landmark event will concurrently connect over 60,000 participants from 586 cities in 185 countries with the rich resources of the Sands Space History Center, serving as a universal knowledge resource hub. As solution teams engage directly with exhibits and artifacts from our space past, the Center transforms into a *LivingLab*<sup>™</sup> to inform and inspire solutions for our Earth's future. **Join Us & Register Now:** <https://win.ngo/>

"We are honored to welcome such a significant event at the Sands Space History Center," said Jamie Draper, Center Director. "This is an unmatched opportunity to showcase the legacy of America's space program and the contributions of our dedicated service members and civilians."

Space Apps welcomes participants of all ages, all skill levels, and all interests to join teams, learn from experts, and leverage open data from NASA, and over a dozen partnering international space agencies, to address real-world problems in a 48-hour *SOLUTIONneering*<sup>™</sup> sprint.

Participants will collaborate with their teams, receiving mentorship and guidance from renowned experts and coaches, including from nearby NASA, University of Central Florida (UCF), Florida Space Institute (FSI), Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU), Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Business Acceleration Network (BAN), National Space Society (NSS), World Innovation Network (WIN), and more.

A distinguished line-up of esteemed space experts, spanning space sub-sectors from art to astronomy, and from animation to astrophysics, will present live and be embedded in the team solution creation. They will share their extensive knowledge and experience to spark and stoke innovative solutions, both technical and creative.

"This is the world's largest and most diverse program focused on inspiring our next generation of space explorers," explained Robert S. Katz, CEO & Executive Director of World Innovation Network (WIN). He was chosen by NASA Headquarters as the local lead for its Cape Canaveral component. "We invite everyone to join in contributing to the future of space exploration," Katz stated. "By connecting with experts and resources, we are empowering everyone to innovate solutions addressing the most pressing challenges facing our planet. We will be inspiring them to engage in space careers, or even grow their current one, while proving that *there is a place, in space, for every face.*"

In keeping with the spirit of Cape Canaveral as the birthplace of space exploration, Katz has coordinated with the Sands Space History Center to broadcast and record all expert presentations and discussion sessions. All will then be available live and on-demand to all of the over 60,000 participants worldwide. This ensures that everyone can benefit from the incredible space expertise base assembled at this historic Sands site.

Further, this local NASA Space Apps weekend has been established as a key cornerstone of World Space Week, a United Nations-declared celebration of space science, technology, and art. Katz especially praised local collaborators saying, "We offer deep gratitude to our amazing WIN community of over 175 partners, including especially CareerSource Brevard Flagler Volusia, CommHIT, RolleIT, ZelTech, Business Acceleration Network (BAN), Inflection Point Studio (IPS), America's Future Series, and Canaveral Council of Technical Societies (CCTS). Together we will launch dreams and ignite careers. We will even together spin-out ASTROpreneurs, as our top solution teams enjoy accelerated eligibility to join our SPACE-BASE incubator/accelerator program."

**Join us On-Site, Off-Site, or On-Line at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station's Sands Space History Center on Oct.05-06 for the NASA International Space Apps Challenge! Register Now:** <https://win.ngo/>

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### **About Sands Space History Center**

The Sands Space History Center, located just outside the gate of the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, preserves, promotes, protects, and presents the legacy and history of American space exploration. As a focal point for space enthusiasts, entrepreneurs, and educators worldwide, the Center offers a comprehensive and immersive experience that chronicles the nation's achievements in space through interactive exhibits, iconic spacecraft, and stories of the visionary scientists, engineers, and astronauts. The Center serves as a platform for inspiring the next generation of both space explorers and Space Force workforce through educational programs, workshops, and events. Partnering with leading STEAM organizations, Sands provides opportunities for students and researchers to explore cutting-edge technologies and contribute to the future of space.

**For further details:** <https://ccspacemuseum.org/>

### **About NASA International Space Apps Challenge**

The NASA International Space Apps Challenge, a flagship initiative of the Earth Sciences Division at NASA Headquarters, is a global hackathon-like event that has been inspiring innovation and creativity in the space community for over a decade. Since its inception, the Challenge has attracted over 250,000 worldwide participants, fostering a collaborative environment where individuals from diverse backgrounds come together to address pressing challenges related to space exploration and Earth science. The Challenge leverages NASA's vast repository of open data to impact fields such as climate change, disaster response, and planetary science, while fostering international collaboration.

**For further details:** <https://win.ngo/spaceapps/>

### **About World Space Week (WSW)**

World Space Week (WSW) is an annual United Nations-declared celebration that ignites excitement and appreciation for space science and technology. Held annually from October 4 to 10, the week commemorates the launch of Sputnik 1 and the signing of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies on October 10th, 1967. Through diverse events and activities worldwide, including educational workshops, conferences, lectures, stargazing parties, and public outreach program, WSW drives international space cooperation.

**For further details:** <https://www.worldspaceweek.org/>

### **About Business Acceleration Network (BAN)**

The Business Acceleration Network (BAN) supports and empowers young entrepreneurs in the space industry. BAN provides a comprehensive range of resources and services to help aspiring entrepreneurs launch and grow their businesses in the dynamic and rapidly evolving space sector. Founded by its current President, Shannon Procise, BAN offers a variety of programs and initiatives, including mentorship, networking, educational workshops, and access to funding. BAN connects young entrepreneurs with experienced industry professionals, as well as with potential investors and partners.

**For further details:** <https://businessaccelerationnetwork.com/>

### **About World Innovation Network (WIN)**

The World Innovation Network (WIN) is the premier 501(c)(3) nonprofit NGO known for its SOLUTIONneering™ Framework, which focuses on not merely Connecting-The-Dots, but Connecting-The-Thoughts. WIN interconnects Cyber-Space, Neural-Space, and Outer-Space to heighten education, enterprises, and entrepreneurship. It catalyzes cooperation through its ecosystem-driven SPACE-BASE incubator/accelerator community collaborative, which empowers ASTROpreneurs and our next generation of space explorers to secure a brighter future for all. WIN's initiatives focus on harnessing technology and innovation to solve collective challenges in space security to ensure community, national, and global security.

**For further details:** <https://win.ngo/>

**OCT 5-6, 2024**

- ★ ALL AGES
- ★ ALL SKILLS
- ★ ALL ABILITIES
- ★ ALL INTERESTS

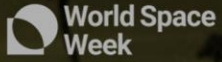


**ON-SITE + ON-LINE**



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**SPACE FORCE**  
MUSEUM

Cornerstone Event for:



[www.WIN.NGO](http://www.WIN.NGO)

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