



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### The Rice Museum of Rocks & Minerals Announces Celebrates Apollo 11 50th Anniversary with Smithsonian Poster Exhibition

Hillsboro: The Rice Museum of Rocks and Minerals presents ***Destination Moon: The Apollo 11 Mission***. The poster exhibition from the Smithsonian celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission and explores the birth and development of the American space program and the space race.

On July 24, 1969, Apollo 11 met President John F. Kennedy's 1961 challenge of "landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the Earth." The poster exhibition explores what led the United States to accept this challenge and how the resulting 953,054-mile voyage to the moon and back was accomplished just eight years after the program was authorized. ***Destination Moon*** examines the mission and recognizes some of the more than 400,000 people employed in NASA programs who worked through the trials, tragedies and triumphs of the 20 missions from 1961 to 1969 before Apollo 11.

Fifty years later, the Apollo program remains the benchmark for great national achievement. When Apollo 11 landed on the moon and humans first set foot on another celestial body, it gave humanity a new perspective from which to view the world. Using this poster exhibition, viewers will be able to look back at this historic mission, and hopefully envision the next generation of innovators, scientists, explorers and astronauts.

***Destination Moon: The Apollo 11 Mission*** is made possible by the support of Jeff and MacKenzie Bezos, Joe Clark, Bruce R. McCaw Family Foundation, the Charles and Lisa Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, John and Susann Norton, and Gregory D. and Jennifer Walston Johnson.

#### About SITES

SITES has been sharing the wealth of Smithsonian collections and research programs with millions of people outside Washington, D.C., for more than 65 years. SITES connects Americans to their shared cultural heritage through a wide range of exhibitions about art, science and history, which are shown wherever people live, work and play.

## About the Rice Museum

Housing a world-class collection of rocks and minerals, the Rice Museum is recognized as the finest in the Pacific Northwest and one of the best in the nation. Its educational programs include organized school field trips and ongoing educational outreach throughout the community at large. The Museum is listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its unique architectural style and natural stone, and extraordinary native Oregon woodwork.

The Rice Museum is a Smithsonian Affiliate, one of only three in Oregon. The Affiliation serves as an endorsement of the quality of a museum's facilities, the training and professionalism of its staff, and its mission to educate the public. More information about the Smithsonian Affiliations program and Affiliate activity is available at [www.affiliations.si.edu](http://www.affiliations.si.edu).

## Access Programs

With the commitment to seek, include, and welcome all audiences. The Rice has joined the access program [Museums for All](#). The Museums for All program supports those receiving food assistance (SNAP) benefits visiting the Rice Museum for a reduced fee of \$3.00 per person, up to four people, with the presentation of a SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card.

For more information about the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals, call (503) 647-2418 or visit [www.ricenorthwestmuseum.org](http://www.ricenorthwestmuseum.org).

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