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Dear <<First Name>>,

At Space Center Houston, we see it every day: students who look at today's global challenges and respond with creativity, determination, and hope. In one recent program, a team of students designed a prototype water purification system to help communities facing drought. Another group built a rover capable of navigating disaster zones. Projects like these remind us that when young people are given the tools and encouragement to innovate, they can reimagine the future.

This is the power of **STEM education in action**. And it's the heart of the **Innovation Circle at Space Center Houston**: a community of visionaries, like you, whose gifts fuel world-class programs that prepare students to see challenges not as barriers, but as problems waiting to be solved.

That's why I invite you to make your gift today and join the Innovation Circle. Your support ensures more students gain access to life-changing STEM opportunities.

The challenges we face today—**disaster response, barriers to quality education, food insecurity, workforce sustainability, and environmental conservation**—are urgent and complex. Tomorrow's solutions depend on the next generation of innovators, and their journey begins now.

That's why Space Center Houston created the **Innovation Circle**. Together, we're preparing students to not only dream about a better future but to build it.



Why This Work Matters Now

STEM careers are at the center of solving today's most pressing problems:

- Engineers are creating sustainable energy systems such as solar grids and carbon-capture technologies to power communities while protecting our planet for future generations.
- Scientists are developing climate models that predict extreme weather patterns to help communities to act before disaster strikes.

Please turn over . . .

- Technologists are transforming disaster response through drone-assisted search and rescues and AI-driven emergency planning tools that save lives when it matters most.
- Innovators are reimagining the future of food systems with precision agriculture and vertical farming while also discovering breakthroughs in space exploration through new spacecraft design and planetary research.

But here's the reality: **these fields urgently need more bright and prepared young minds.** If we don't replenish the pipeline of scientists, engineers, and problem-solvers today, the solutions of tomorrow could remain out of reach. Research shows that the U.S. will have a labor shortage of 1.1 million STEM workers if the current labor trends continue as is (americanactionforum.org). **You can help us shape the future of STEM careers.**



Your donation today is critical. By joining the Innovation Circle now, you are directly equipping students with the skills, mentorship, and inspiration they need to lead.

How Innovation Circle Changes Lives

Every student who walks through our doors is given the chance to explore, ask, “what if,” and discover their own potential. Thanks to supporters like you:

- Students gain opportunities that spark their passion for STEM.
- Educators receive the resources and training they need to inspire classrooms full of curious minds.
- Donors see their gifts having a real impact, equipping the next generation to solve problems that affect us all.

Cara S., Age 9 – Participated in Girls STEM Academy

“I am proud to say to myself, ‘I am in love with science.’ I think about the STEM Academy and the knowledge it has brought me and the experiences. I hope I have taken the steps to be what I want to be and do what I desire to do with my life. Thanks to the STEM Academy.”

Eric R., Age 19 – Participated in the Accelerate Space Program

“This program has changed my view of the aerospace industry. We need a lot of STEM based professionals in this career field. It has also changed my personal and professional life. Many of the skills and knowledge learned that I learned from this program I will use moving forward.”

Continued ...

Dr. Morgan Micheletti – Innovation Circle Donor

“When people first hear Space Center Houston, I think many people think of it as a museum, but it’s so much more than that. It’s really the public liaison between NASA and the science done at NASA to the public. And they’ve done such a good job at positioning themselves to really bridge the gap in knowledge and outreach and help us all learn more about space.”

Please make your gift today. By joining the Innovation Circle, you’re giving students the chance to see themselves as future scientists, engineers, and innovators.

Programs That Drive Innovation

- **Student Field Trips** – We provide under-resourced students the chance to experience the past, present, and future of human spaceflight. Each year, nearly 50,000 students take part in unique Space Center Houston and Johnson Space Center field trips that inspire curiosity and connect NASA’s work to real-world possibilities. Without added support, many students would miss these life-changing opportunities.

Donate \$5,000 to Fund Our STEM Programs for a Classroom of 30 Students.

- **The Space Exploration Educators Conference (SEEC)** – Educators are at the heart of inspiring the next generation. Through SEEC, we empower them with the tools, resources, and support they need to spark curiosity, imagination, and a lifelong love of discovery in their students. By equipping teachers, we multiply our reach and support of countless students in classrooms around the globe.

Donate \$500 for an Educator to Attend SEEC at Space Center Houston.

- **The Gene Kranz Scholarship Fund** – Scholarships provide deserving students ages 11–18 with the chance to attend Space Center U®, our immersive program where they design rovers, practice problem-solving under pressure, and gain the confidence to see themselves as future innovators.

Donate \$1,000 to the Gene Kranz Scholarship Fund to Send One Deserving Student to Space Center U®.



Please turn over . . .

Your Role in Solving Tomorrow's Problems

Together, these programs show how the **Innovation Circle is the answer** to real-world challenges, preparing both students and teachers to shape the future.

Students are ready to rise to the challenge. Donors like you make it possible.

Please join us and be part of this impact today. Your Innovation Circle gift ensures more students and educators have access to these life-changing opportunities.



The work is urgent, and we need your support.

As the year comes to a close, your gift is not only an act of generosity but also a catalyst for innovation, discovery, and real-world impact.

Your support will:

- Open doors for more students who dream of STEM careers, such as doctors and scientists.
- Inspire breakthroughs that will shape a better future for our children and communities.
- Equip young people with the skills to tackle today's most urgent global challenges.

Join us. Support us. Be a part of the Innovation Circle, today!

With deep gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barrett Shaver'.

Barrett Shaver

Chief Development Officer, Space Center Houston

P.S. Every gift made by December 31 goes directly toward opening new opportunities for students in the year ahead. **Please donate today and join the Innovation Circle to make a lasting difference.**





Join the Innovation Circle to Make Your Impact Today!

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☐ Through a Donor Advised Fund through

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If you're interested in making a donation in another form such as transfer of securities or IRA distribution, corporate matching gifts, or planned giving, please email giving@spacecenter.org or call Amelia Kleiman at +1-281-244-2119.

Innovation Circle of Donors

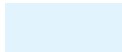
When you join innovation circle, in addition to memorable out-of-this-world experiences, you may opt-in to enjoy the same benefits extended to all Space Center Houston members.

For a complete list of benefits, visit spacecenter.org/innovation-circle.

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☐ Yes, I would like to join Innovation Circle.

☐ I do not wish to join the Innovation Circle and receive VIP access at Space Center Houston.



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