



Museum of Science Fiction
Washington, DC
USA: Earth: Sol: Milky Way

ESCAPE
VELOCITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NASA Spacesuits Featured at Escape Velocity

Washington, DC (Apr. 27, 2016) – The Museum of Science Fiction, the world's first comprehensive science fiction museum, is pleased to announce that Escape Velocity attendees will have a chance to see and take photos with real mission-flown spacesuits at the convention in July at the *Have Space Suit – Will Travel* exhibit, sponsored by the Heinlein Prize Trust (HPT).

The HPT exhibit includes the spacesuits worn by former astronaut and veteran of four space missions, Dr. Peggy Whitson, and former astronaut and current NASA Administrator, Charles Bolden. Both suits were designed to provide astronauts protection from high-Gs and loss of cabin pressure, as well as insulation from cold air or water.

"Robert Heinlein's vision of space travel continues to inspire science fiction fans and space enthusiasts today," said Art Dula, trustee of the HPT. "Our mission is to inspire young people to become the next generation of space scientists, engineers, and explorers, and giving them a chance to experience real spacesuits at Escape Velocity is part of that mission."

The *Have Space Suit – Will Travel* activity is one of many impressive programs sponsored by HPT to honor the legacy of Robert Heinlein, four-time Hugo Award-winning American science fiction author best known for his novels, *Stranger in a Strange Land* and *Starship Troopers*.

"Having flown on four missions, I can say Heinlein was absolutely right when he wrote in his book, *Have Space Suit, Will Travel*, 'You can't believe what a lovely planet we have until you see her from outside,'" said Dr. Don Thomas, former NASA astronaut and HPT spokesman. "I hope that when visitors see these suits for themselves, it will bring their dreams of going into space that much closer to reality."

Dr. Thomas will be at Escape Velocity to answer questions, share his personal spaceflight experiences and available for photo opportunities.

More information about this and other activities are available here:

www.museumofsciencefiction.org

escapevelocity.events

About the Museum of Science Fiction

The nonprofit Museum of Science Fiction will be the world's first comprehensive science fiction museum, covering the history of the genre across the arts and providing a narrative on its relationship to the real world. The Museum will show how science fiction continually inspires individuals, influences cultures, and impacts societies. Also serving as an educational catalyst to expand interest in the science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) areas, the Museum uses tools such as mobile applications and wifi-enabled display objects to engage and entertain. For a full press packet on the Museum of Science Fiction's vision and other information, please visit:

www.museumofsciencefiction.org/presspacket

About Escape Velocity 2016

The Museum of Science Fiction and NASA are partnering to bring Escape Velocity 2016 to Washington, DC. The event will be like a micro futuristic world's fair to promote STEAM educational activities within the context of science fiction using the fun of comic cons and fascination of science and engineering festivals. Escape Velocity 2016 seeks to make a measurable positive impact to boost informal learning on the more conceptually challenging academic areas. Escape Velocity's mission is to re-invigorate the interest of our young people in science, technology, engineering, art, and math by producing and presenting the most compelling, exciting, educational, and entertaining science festival in the United States using science fiction as the primary engine. Escape Velocity will achieve orbit on July 1 - 3, 2016 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in Metropolitan Washington, DC. For a full press packet on Escape Velocity, please visit: escapevelocity.events/press-media

About the Heinlein Prize Trust

The Heinlein Prize® honors the memory of Robert A. Heinlein™, a renowned American author. The purpose of the Heinlein Prize® is to encourage and reward progress in commercial space activities that advances Robert and his wife Virginia's dream of humanity's future in space. Efforts include The Heinlein Prize® for Accomplishments in Commercial Space Activities, The Microgravity Research Competition, The Heinlein Commercial Space Activity Prize, *Have Space Suit – Will Travel* exhibit, and The "Flight into the Future" international contests. For more information, visit [Heinlein Prize Trust](http://HeinleinPrizeTrust.org). Follow HPT on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HeinleinPrizeTrust) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/HeinleinPrizeTrust).

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