



For Immediate Release

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MOST to contact NASA Astronaut aboard ISS

SYRACUSE, NY (February 16, 2018) - On Friday, February 23, 2018 at 9:08 a.m., the MOST will make contact with the International Space Station (ISS) via amateur radio and speak with NASA Astronaut Mark Vande Hei, who launched to the ISS in September 2017.

The MOST will open at a special time of 8:30 a.m. on Friday to allow visitors to experience this rare and exciting opportunity. Regular exhibit admission rates apply.

Contact will last approximately ten minutes, and [Boys & Girls Club of Syracuse Central Village](#) students will ask Mark Vande Hei a series of questions from the MOST's ham radio station exhibit until the ISS reaches the horizon and communication is lost.

"How exciting is it for Syracuse's science and technology museum to have the opportunity to speak with a NASA Astronaut aboard the Space Station?" said Lauren Kochian, Executive Vice President of the MOST. "We are thrilled to welcome our community and students from the Boys & Girls Club for what will surely be a memorable and unique experience."

To facilitate conversation, the MOST purchased special equipment, including an antenna that is mounted on top of the Museum and will follow the ISS as it travels about 5 miles per second (i.e. roughly 17,100 mph) overhead. Following communication with the ISS, equipment will be utilized in the Museum's ham radio station area, where it will be used to make contact with satellites and ham radio operators across the world.

MEDIA ALERT (do not publish)

Members of the media are invited to cover the event. Please let Drew Heagle know at the email address or phone number above if you would like to attend.

About the MOST

The Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science & Technology (MOST) is a hands-on science and technology museum for people of all ages. The Museum features 35,000 square feet of exhibit space, Silverman Planetarium and the only domed IMAX® theater in New York State. The Museum's mission is to be a pre-eminent science and technology center, inspiring all generations through hands-on education and entertainment.

The Museum's regular operating hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. For hours and prices, visit www.most.org or call (315) 425-9068.

Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science & Technology
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