Friday, July 24, 2015
MARS DAY! is an annual National Air and Space Museum event that celebrates the Red Planet with a variety of educational and fun family activities. Visitors can also talk to scientists active in Mars research and learn about current and future missions.

Activity List

- A Piece of Mars—See a real meteorite that came from Mars.
- Mars Science Laboratory—Learn about Curiosity, the latest rover to operate on Mars, with MSL science team member John Grant.
- Gale Crater—Tour Curiosity’s landing site and learn about the rocks and minerals found there, with Planetary Geologist Ross Irwin.
- Polar Places—Learn about the Martian polar regions and how Antarctica can be a laboratory for studying Mars, with Planetary Scientist Maria Banks.
- Currently Active Mars—See images of recent Martian avalanches, dust devils, sand dunes, and impacts, and learn how the surface of Mars is still changing today, with Planetary Scientist Maria Banks.
- NASA Mars Missions—Learn about NASA’s missions of exploration with NASA’s Mike Meyer, Lead Scientist, Mars Exploration Program.
- HiRISE—See high resolution views from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter.
- Images of Mars in 3-D—View the surface of Mars in 3-D with red/blue glasses.
- Mars Art!—Art activity for kids.
- TechQuest—Enjoy this game where you become a Mars Planetary Geologist selecting rock samples to return to Earth.
- Mars Radar—Learn how to see beneath the surface of Mars, with Planetary Scientists Bruce Campbell and Jenny Whitten.
- Mars Rovers—See Marie Curie, the flight spare for the Pathfinder Sojourner rover, and full-scale models of Opportunity and Curiosity that are currently operating on Mars, and learn about their missions with Planetary Geologist Ross Irwin.
- Rover Driver—Meet Mike Seibert, Lead Flight Director and Rover Driver for the Opportunity mission.
- Mars Story Time—Story time for youngsters.
- MARSIS—Learn about radar mapping of Mars on the European Mars Express mission, with Planetary Scientist Tom Watters.
- Robot Explorers—Test your skills as you maneuver a robotic rover or collect samples with a robotic arm. A hands-on activity with small robots.
• Red Planet Quiz Show—Test your Mars knowledge, with Martian of Ceremonies Brian Healy.
• Regional Planetary Image Facility—Learn about NASM’s RPIF, a NASA-funded archive of planetary imagery.
• Journey to Space 3D: See an exciting IMAX film with thoughts on human exploration of Mars.