



## National Space Club News Release

### Space Club Donates to Brevard Space Week

*Program excites students on STEM studies and space industry careers*

CAPE CANAVERAL, FL, November 14, 2011 – The National Space Club (NSC) of Florida presented a check to Brevard Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Brian Binggeli and Brevard Schools Foundation Executive Director Janice Kershaw at the November 8, NSC meeting held at the Radisson at the Port, Cape Canaveral. The \$50,000 check will go toward funding Brevard Space Week, a program that introduces sixth grade students to the space exploration activities that occur at Kennedy Space Center (KSC).

“Space Week excites the imagination of our students and plants the seed for those who will be a part of the next generation of space explorers,” said NSC Chair Steve Griffin. “Whether they dream of being an astronaut or of helping launch space vehicles, it’s vitally important that we encourage our students to be a part of mankind’s journey to the stars.”

Over a two-week period in December, more than 5,500 students will experience a variety of interactive activities and exhibits, plus hear an astronaut describe space flight. Since 2004, approximately 35,000 Brevard County students have participated in this innovative program located at the KSC Visitor Complex.

“Supporting Brevard Space Week is a natural fit for our organization. The event excites students about the space industry as a potential career path; while encouraging them to study science, technology, engineering and math to reach their goals, said Adrian Laffitte, NSC’s Space Week Chair.

“With their very generous donation, the National Space Club is keeping the vision of space exploration alive amongst our youth,” said Dr. Binggeli. “Programs like Space Week also engage students in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and help them begin to see the career possibilities related to this learning.”

NSC companies and members supporting Brevard Space Week include Abacus, Astrotech, ATK, Bionetics, Boeing, CSR, ITT, Lockheed Martin, L-2 Aerospace, Northrop Grumman, Sierra Lobo, Space Coast Launch Services, Space Gateway Support, United Launch Alliance, URS, United Space Alliance, George English, Bill Fletcher, Todd & Annis Halvorson, Dr. Al Koller, Forrest & Ruth McCartney, Joann Morgan, Dr. Mary Kalen Romjue, Bob Sieck, Lee Solid, Smokey Stover and Tip Talone.

Brevard Schools Foundation directly supports Brevard County public schools. The Foundation provides scholarships, school supplies, mentoring programs, Space Week, classroom grants and other direct support designed to enhance education.

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Photo: NSC presents a \$50,000 check to Brevard School officials for Brevard Space Week. From left: NSC Vice Chair Jim McCarthy, Adrian Laffitte, Janice Kershaw and Brian Binggeli.

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The National Space Club (NSC), founded in 1957, stimulates the exchange of ideas and information about rocketry and astronautics, and promotes the recognition of America's achievements in aerospace. The Club, which meets monthly in Cocoa Beach, is a non-profit corporation composed of representatives of industry, government, educational institutions and private individuals who share a commitment to increasing public awareness of America's aerospace programs.

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