



2018 Live NASA Downlink Essay Contest

What is the next-best thing to being in space? Interacting with those who are in space! The Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium (TASM) is giving Oklahoma students the chance to talk and interact with NASA astronauts aboard the International Space Station.

International Space Station In-flight Education Downlinks support NASA's efforts to encourage K-12 students to study and pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Downlinks are facilitated by the Johnson Space Center Office of Education as part of STEM on Station, and use the unique experience of human spaceflight to promote and enhance STEM education.

"Teaching From Space" coordinates downlinks from the International Space Station to bring the unique experience of human space flight into classrooms across the country. Millions of students have watched as crewmembers discuss and demonstrate concepts in ways unique to space, and have participated in live question-and-answer sessions with crewmembers. Downlinks, which are broadcast live on NASA TV and streamed on the web, are part of a comprehensive educational package that supports national and state education standards and initiatives.

TASM will host a Live NASA Downlink with the astronauts in April or May. The date will be provided by NASA in late February/early March. Students will be selected based on their essay submissions, selected students will pose questions and watch as astronauts answer the questions and demonstrate STEM concepts in ways that are impossible on Earth.

Essay Contest Rules

Essay Topic

What question would you ask an astronaut and why? Please explain how your question relates to you and your life on earth.

Essay Length and Requirements

Essays should be the following lengths, according to grade level:

5th & 6th grades: 500 word limit

7th & 8th grades: 750 word limit

9th-12th grades: 1000 word limit

Must be typed in English, 1" margins, Times New Roman font, size 12 font, double-spaced

Deadline

Essays must be submitted via email to NASAchat@tulsamuseum.org no later than 5 p.m. on March 9, 2018. Essays submitted after this deadline will not be considered.

Eligibility

The contest is open to Oklahoma students in 5th-12th grades. All entries must be submitted by 5 p.m. on March 9, 2018. Students may submit only one essay. If multiple submissions are submitted, the first submission will be used. Students must be an Oklahoma resident and attend an Oklahoma public, private, charter or home school.

Plagiarism

All essays must be the original work of the student whose name is listed on the submission form. Plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification.

Evaluation

Essays will be graded by a secret panel of judges. Winning essays will be determined based on content, relevance to the essay topic, depth of thought and grammar.

Winning Essays

Students with selected essays will be invited to attend a Live NASA Downlink event at TASM on a date to be selected by NASA and announced in late February or Early March. TASM will announce the downlink date, as soon as possible through their website and social media accounts. Students will be notified via email if selected.

Downlink Participants

The downlink lasts approximately 20 minutes, and students will have a chance to ask their question to the astronauts. The number of questions asked by students will be determined by the time it takes for astronauts to respond to the questions. There is no guarantee that all attending students will get to ask a question. Students selected to attend the Live NASA Downlink may have a school representative or parent attend with them. Other guests may view the Live NASA Downlink at other locations at TASM as the seating is limited.

Travel to TASM for the Live NASA Downlink will not be provided or compensated by TASM. Selected students and their guests will be given free admission to TASM for the day of the Live NASA Downlink.

Questions

For any other questions about the Essay Contest or the Live NASA Downlink please email NASAchat@tulsamuseum.org.

Essay Submission Form



TULSA AIR AND SPACE
MUSEUM & PLANETARIUM

3624 North 74th East Ave. • (918) 834-9900
www.TulsaAirandSpaceMuseum.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

Student Name:

Address:

City:

State:

ZIP:

Phone:

Email Address:

Birthday:

Race:

Are you a member of a native american tribe? If so, which one:

Grade Level: 5th: 6th: 7th: 8th: 9th: 10th: 11th: 12th:

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

School Name:

Address:

City:

State:

ZIP:

Phone:

Type of School: Public: Private: Charter: Homeschool:

Name of School Representative:

Email Address:

Title: Teacher: Principal: Counselor: Other:

INTERESTS

Please select the following STEM-related activities or interests that pertain to you:

LEGO Robotics: FIRST Robotics: VEX Robotics: Project Lead the Way (PLTW):

4-H: Boy Scouts: Girl Scouts: Astronomy Club: Web Design: Coding:

Science Fair: AP Classes: Rocketry: Model Building: Computer Building:

Other:

Complete this form and email it to:

NASAchat@tulsamuseum.org

For your submission to be valid, your email should include the following three documents

- Your Essay
- Essay Submission Form
- Signed Release Form

Deadline: March 9, 2018 by 5 p.m.



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In valued consideration for the opportunity to submit my Essay and Submission Form to participate as an applicant in the 2018 Live NASA Downlink Essay Contest, being sponsored by the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium, I irrevocably give the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium and its agents and contractors the permission and the right to use my essay for the following:

- Make Copies/ Distribute the essay
- Publish/ Broadcast/ Display the essay
- Alter the essay

I also irrevocably give the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium and its agents and contractors the permission and the right to use the following content, along with my essay, on the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium website, elsewhere on the internet, in advertising and promotional materials, and in other medium and format for any purpose related to the 2018 Live NASA Download Link Essay Contest:

- Photographs or images of me that have been provided or that will be created
- My voice and likeness
- My name/ the city, state, or providence in which I live
- Other information and materials included in my Submission Form

I release and waive and agree to hold the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium, its agents, and its contractors harmless from any claims, damages, or liabilities resulting from their use of the Essay and I agree not to bring any such claims against the released parties at any time in the future. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Claims for violation of publicity rights and privacy rights
- Claims based on moral rights, claims for intrusion
- Claims for defamation
- Claims for fraud, claims for infliction of emotional distress
- Claims for copyright or other intellectual property infringement, whether those claims may be based on statutes or the common law.

I waive any right to royalties or other payment for the use of my Essay and photo, and I also waive the right to inspect or approve the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium's use of the Essay, my photo and other materials that the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium may use with them.

I represent and warrant to the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium that: The Essay is my original work. I attest that there is NO copyrighted material in my Essay. I have not granted anyone else any rights to use, distribute, publish, broadcast, or display the Essay. I have the full right and authority to execute this Release and Waiver. I have all rights necessary to grant the rights, waivers, and releases granted in this Release and Waiver. I have read this Release and Waiver and I fully understand it. All statements and information included in my Submission Form and any other statements and information that I provided to or will provide to The National Archives and Records Administration are true and complete.

Student

Parent or Legal Guardian

Print Name: _____

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____