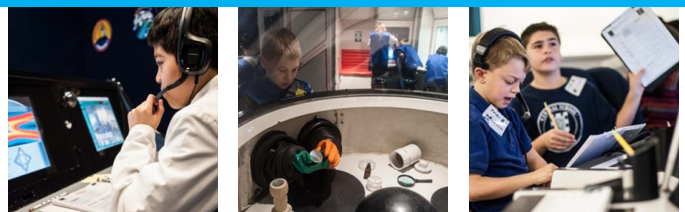




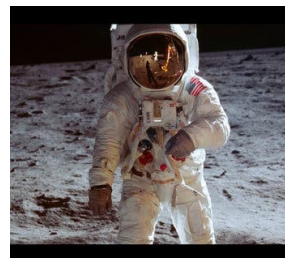
# Minnesota Mission Log



Newsletter: Winter/Spring 2019

## 'Celebrate the Past and Inspire the Future' STEAM Event 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11 - July 20, 2019

You are invited to **DREAM BIG** on Saturday, July 20, 2019 at Mall of America! Mall of America and the Challenger Learning Center of Minnesota have partnered together to Celebrate the Past and Inspire the Future with an epic one-day STEAM event to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11, the first manned moon landing.



### Overview:

This event is an opportunity to celebrate the amazing achievements in space exploration while sparking interest and excitement in science, technology, engineering, arts and math. We will educate and entertain generations, while inspiring today's children to dream limitlessly, and open their minds to the possibility of pursuing STEAM careers, exploring space, or even going to Mars one day.

### Event Details

The event is free and open to the public with programming for all ages including hands-on STEAM activities, robotics, moon rocks, virtual reality, drone racing, astronauts and more! Watch for more information coming soon to Facebook and the web:

[www.mallofamerica.com](http://www.mallofamerica.com) [www.challengermn.org](http://www.challengermn.org)

### 50th Anniversary

One Sunday night in July 1969, one billion people huddled around their radios and TV screens in awe as we walked on the moon for the first time. In that moment, the world was united in celebration of human ingenuity and inspired by the possibility that by working together, we can quite literally reach the stars. Now, 50 years later, we have an opportunity to use this celebration to inspire the future.

### Date & Location

Saturday, July 20, 2019 at Mall of America from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need your help to make this event a success. We are looking for help running our hands-on STEAM activities such as our robotics, straw rockets and edible Mars rovers. Please consider signing up for one or more volunteer spots that day through the link below. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040d4bada92ba20-50th>

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[www.challenger.org](http://www.challenger.org)  
(National)

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Touching the future through STEM education.



# Celebrating Engineers Week 2019

## Engineers Invent Amazing #EWeek2019

Challenger Learning Center of Minnesota participated in Engineers Week February 17-23, 2019 with programming for 1st through 4th grade. We learned about what engineers do, how engineers use the Engineering Design Process and completed fun engineering challenges that sparked imagination and inspiration.

First graders created Rosie Revere helicopters that actually flew! Second graders learned about Mars and created their own Mars Rovers out of edible items such as graham crackers, marshmallows and candy. Third graders had to create a tower out of index cards and a limited amount of tape that could hold the weight of a bird and withstand a wind storm. Fourth graders learned about friction and force by building a contraption to survive a zip line.

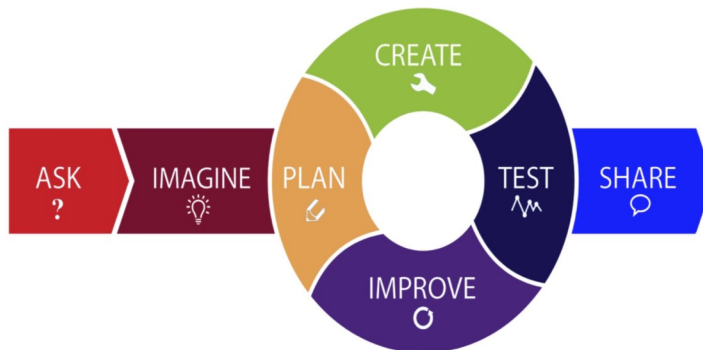
Engineers Week is an annual event designed to raise awareness of all the ways engineering contributes to our daily lives and foster interest in future generations of engineers. Engineers create things that amaze us in the moment, but many of us take for granted much in this engineered world that is everyday amazing, like clean drinking water at the turn of a faucet. During Engineers Week we celebrate engineers and how they enhance our lives. The need for the next generation of practical inventors and innovators continues!



Mars Rover (Second Grade)



Tower Power (Third Grade)



Engineering Design Process

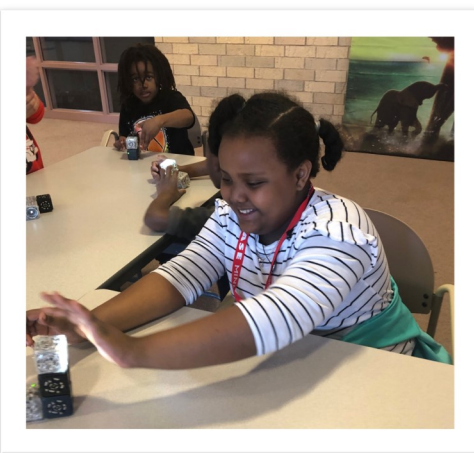


## In The News

### Thank you to 3M for your support!

A huge thank you to 3M for your support of our continued robotics outreach programming. We are thrilled to provide hands-on robotics workshops for deserving youth around the metro area.

In our workshops we are scientists that work together to investigate robots—what is a robot and how do they work? Using Modular Robotics Cubelets, we then put our knowledge and imagination to work to design and build our own robots to complete engineering challenges! We deliberately set out to provide encouragement and confidence through hands-on STEM activities so that by the end of our workshop students can see that science is fun, exciting and achievable – “I can do this!”.



### SpaceX Crew Dragon Completes Historic Mission

In March 2019, SpaceX and the US space program took a giant step towards self-sufficient spaceflight with the successful launch, dock and landing of the Crew Dragon capsule. The Crew Dragon capsule launched atop of the Falcon 9 rocket in the early hours of March 2nd. The capsule docked with the International Space Station and returned safely back to Earth to complete the successful six day mission. No one was aboard this historic flight except a sensor-laden dummy astronaut named Ripley.

Why is this historic and important? US astronauts have not launched from US soil since the Space Shuttle program ended in 2011. Since then we have only been able to go to space onboard a Russian Soyuz rocket, paying about \$80 million per seat! Astronauts are hoping to launch aboard the Crew Dragon sometime this year!

The Crew Dragon capsule is an updated and advanced version of the Dragon cargo capsule that has been a workhorse for SpaceX ferrying supplies to and from the ISS.



### How Can You Help?

- > Visit our website for more information and contact us to learn how you can get involved.
- > Sign up for an individual or Family Membership, or consider a donation - information on the website:  
[www.challengermn.org/membership.html](http://www.challengermn.org/membership.html)
- > Help us get the word out!



### Save the Date!

Don't forget to check out our celebration of Apollo 11 at Mall of America on July 20, 2019 to Celebrate the Past and Inspire the Future!