



**MEDIA ALERT** | For Immediate Release

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**CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER WINS PRESTIGIOUS ROY L. SHAFER LEADING EDGE**

**AWARD FOR MUSEUM EXPERIENCES**

***INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION PRESENTED BY ASSOCIATION OF SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY  
CENTERS AT ANNUAL ASTC CONFERENCE***

***{Insert photo from ASTC awards}***

**PITTSBURGH, Oct. 9, 2023** – [Carnegie Science Center](#) is the 2023 recipient of the [Leading Edge Award](#) from the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC), an international organization of more than 600 science centers and museums dedicated to increasing the understanding of and engagement with science and technology among all people.

This esteemed accolade recognizes Carnegie Science Center's outstanding contributions to the field of science education, particularly for its groundbreaking exhibition, [Mars: The Next Giant Leap](#), and its commitment to community engagement. Jason Brown, Henry Buhl, Jr., Director of Carnegie Science Center, accepted the award on behalf of the Science Center at the 2023 ASTC Annual Conference in Charlotte last Saturday.

"This award is a testament to the dedication of our team members, partners, and the community," said Brown. "It signifies our commitment to inspire and engage our community, especially our young minds, in the wonders of space exploration."

"*Mars: The Next Giant Leap* is not just an exhibition; it's a journey that challenges us to explore the profound questions surrounding our future in space," added Brown. "It invites us to contemplate the uncharted territory of Mars and, in doing so, illuminates the path to a better future for both our red neighbor and our own blue planet."

***{insert quote from ASTC}***

The Roy L. Shafer Leading Edge Awards are presented annually to ASTC members and their teams in recognition of extraordinary accomplishments that enhance the performance of their own organizations while also significantly advancing and inspiring the entire field. This year's honor is the third Leading Edge Award that Carnegie Science Center has won. The Science Center won in 2012 for their Chevron Center for STEM Education and Career Development and again in 2009 for the Science Center's BrainCake website.

"As we accept this award, we are reminded that our mission is far from over. With *Mars: The Next Giant Leap* as our guiding star, we are committed to continuing our work of inspiring curiosity, sparking dialogue, and empowering the next generation to reach for the stars. Together, we'll keep exploring new horizons, both on Mars and here on Earth, as we shape a brighter, more inclusive future for all," concluded Brown.

## **About Carnegie Science Center**

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center's goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh's premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

### **Accessibility: Features for All**

Carnegie Science Center welcomes all visitors. We work to assist visitors with disabilities in obtaining reasonable and appropriate accommodations, and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities. We welcome visitors in wheelchairs on the deck of our USS Requin (SS 481) submarine. Below-deck visits require full mobility. Hearing assistance devices are available for The Rangos Giant Cinema. Please ask when you buy your ticket.

Please note that requests for accommodations should be made at least two weeks prior to your visit. For specific questions about wheelchairs, strollers, or other programmatic or equipment needs, see the ticket counter located on the first floor of the main building or contact Customer Service at 412.237.3400 or [accessibility@carnegiesciencecenter.org](mailto:accessibility@carnegiesciencecenter.org). Please contact Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh's Accessibility Coordinator with concerns regarding accessibility for visitors with disabilities at the museums. On weekdays, call 412.622.6578 or email [accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org](mailto:accessibility@carnegiemuseums.org).

### **About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, [Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh](#) is a family of four dynamic, distinctive museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. The museums reach 1.5 million people a year through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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