



109 N. Main
Midland, Texas 79701

800.624.6435
432.683.3381

fax 432.686.3556
www.VisitMidlandTexas.com

Follow us for daily
news and updates:



Midland Visitors Bureau



@MidlandCVB

April 21, 2015

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

For more information and to schedule an interview, contact:
Chelsea Dey, Marketing Director, Museum of the Southwest
1705 W. Missouri Ave., Midland, Texas 79701
432-683-2882 x 304, cdey@MuseumSW.org

MUSEUM OF THE SOUTHWEST CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMY DAY WITH FOURTH MAN TO WALK ON THE MOON

Midland, Texas – On Saturday, April 25, the Museum of the Southwest and the West Texas Astronomers will offer educational activities for the whole family, including a meet-and-greet with Captain Alan Bean, retired astronaut and fourth man to walk on the moon. Captain Bean will also give a lecture at 6 p.m. at the Lee High School Auditorium as part of the Museum of the Southwest's lecture series, *Relativity*, made possible by the FMH Foundation.

Between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Museum visitors will be able to engage in activities including a scavenger hunt, air rocket launching, solar viewing, art projects and more. A spacecraft contest will also take place, to be judged in the afternoon. Contestants are invited to create their spacecraft at home and deliver to the Museum by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 24. An entry form is available at MuseumSW.org/Astronomy-Day. International Astronomy Day activities are made possible by Betty and Don Tomlin.

Captain Alan Bean was born in Wheeler, Texas in 1932. He attended the University of Texas at Austin, and was later awarded a Bachelor of Science degree and was commissioned Ensign, United States Navy. In 1963, he was selected as an Astronaut for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He was the Lunar Module Pilot on Apollo 12, man's second Lunar Landing, and was the fourth man to set foot on the moon. Throughout his career as an astronaut, Alan took night and weekend courses at the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Glassell School of Art and from a number of talented fine artists in the Houston, TX area. For the last 28 years, he has been a full-time professional artist. When he resigned from NASA, Alan vowed: "I will not be an astronaut that paints, but will become an artist that used to be an astronaut."

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMY DAY SCHEDULE:

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Solar Viewing with the West Texas Astronomers

Air Rocket Launching

Spacecraft Building Contest—must be turned in by 5 pm on Friday, April 24

(Please note that spacecraft to be entered into contest should be built in advance, visit MuseumSW.org/Astronomy-Day for entry details)

-continue-

3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Meet-and-Greet with Captain Alan Bean
Spacecraft Contest Judging

6 to 7:30 p.m.

Relativity Lecture with Captain Alan Bean: The Art of Space Exploration
Lee High School Auditorium

The Museum of the Southwest is a nonprofit organization located in Midland, Texas. *The Museum of the Southwest inspires discovery, interaction and exploration of art, science, culture and history, enriching the lives of people of all ages.* Founded in 1965 and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums since 1992, the Museum is comprised of the Juliette and Fred Turner, Jr. Memorial Art Gallery, the Fredda Turner Durham Children's Museum, the state-of-the-art Marian Blakemore Planetarium and an outdoor Sculpture Garden. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, and closed Monday. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids under 12 and free for kids 2 and under. Due to restoration and renewal efforts, the Turner Memorial Art Gallery will be closed for the remainder of 2015. For more information on the Museum, membership and upcoming exhibitions, programs and events, visit MuseumSW.org, call 432.683.2882 or send an email to info@MuseumSW.org.

The mission of the **Midland, Texas Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB)** is to encourage economic growth by developing, promoting, enhancing and supporting Midland as a vibrant visitor destination. For more information on the Midland CVB, or to request a free Midland Experience Guide and Map, call (800) 624-6435 or visit www.VisitMidlandTexas.com.

The above information has been provided by the Museum of the Southwest and distributed by the Midland Convention & Visitors Bureau.

###

Images and press releases can be found online at MuseumSW.org/press. For more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact Chelsea Dey at 432.683.2882 x 304 or cdey@MuseumSW.org.