

Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT:

Local contest host -

(name)

(organization)

(phone)

About the competition -

Jack Colpas, co-director

Reach for the Stars ~ National Rocket Competition

Phone (941) 955-3958 FAX (206) 350-7880

Rocketman@SciConServices.com www.TheRocketman.net

date: ???/??/????

5, 4, 3, 2...We Have a Hold on Launch at (name of school or location)!

NASA isn't the only group experiencing launch problems. Kids in (**group / class**) have difficulties of their own. They want to compete in the **Reach for the Stars ~ National Rocket Competition** and need your help. Local competitions determine National Winners. National Winners get the opportunity to launch from the **Homer Hickam Launch Pad at Space Camp** and celebrate **US Space & Rocket Center** in Huntsville, Alabama under an "October Sky."

The local launch is a STEM Educational Outreach (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). The purpose of the program is to excite kids about science, technology, engineering, math and aeronautics. The goal is to give each kid their own rocket to build and launch. The program's mission is to keep alive the memory of the first Teacher-in-Space, *Christa McAuliffe*. Each contestant gets to keep their rocket and receives a full color achievement certificate bearing *Christa's* quote, "Push yourself as far as you can. Reach for the Stars!" The certificates feature the artwork of astronaut and Moonwalker, *Alan Bean* – further exemplifying the importance of space exploration.

The competition is easy to run. The rocket that has the closest average landing to a target after two flights wins. The local winner's information is sent to contest headquarters to compete against all other entries nationwide. Detailed information about the Competition is at www.RocketCompetition.com

Cost per contestant is about that of a movie ticket, popcorn and a drink - a small price to pay for memories that will last a lifetime. Everyone remembers their first rocket launch. Your donation is needed so we can build these memories. To help out, contact (**Competition host's name**) at (???) ???-?????. Tell them how many kids you want to sponsor. Sponsors receive recognition in the organization newsletter, an invitation to the launch and the satisfaction of - ***Helping Kids Reach for the Stars.***

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