

Mars and Beyond

August 18-19, 2012, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Museum of Science, Boston

Mars and Beyond will take place the weekend of August 18-19, 2012, just a few days after the *Curiosity*, the *Mars Science Laboratory* rover, is expected to land on Mars. We'll present the latest news about the *MSL* mission, and we'll also expand our exploration beyond the Red Planet—and even beyond the Solar System—through live presentations, demos, activities, and exhibits.

Both days will feature a series of stations focusing on specific targets for exploration, such as the Sun, planets, moons, asteroids, and exoplanets. Some stations will also feature technologies such as rockets and space suits. As they explore the stations, visitors can meet scientists, view displays and demonstrations about current research, and join in activities. Collecting stamps from all the stations on an “interplanetary passport” card will let visitors enter drawings for prizes such as free passes to our Planetarium.



In addition to the stations, the event also features short talks scheduled throughout the day. Space scientists and engineers from NASA and local research institutions will present their latest discoveries in short talks on the Current Science & Technology Stage. Some presentations will feature conversations with panels of experts who will answer visitors' questions.

Mars will be one of the largest stations with 3D panoramic images of Martian landscapes, a video game simulating rover navigation, and a 1/3 scale model of the *Curiosity* rover.

The table-based activities and stage presentations will all take place next to the Museum's permanent exhibit about the Apollo missions and a special NASA exhibit about the International Space Station.



By offering exhibits, activities, and opportunities to interact directly with space scientists, the *Mars and Beyond* event will help kindle new appreciation of the importance of space exploration in advancing technologies and expanding knowledge. We hope the event will inspire visitors to picture themselves in space-related careers and to keep following the progress of current missions such as *Mars Science Laboratory*. Adults, students, and families will all enjoy a spectacular journey!