

Contact: Juddy Cenicerros
Public Information Office
Phone 562-904-1895
Fax 562-923-6388

jcenicerros@downeyca.org
11111 Brookshire Avenue
Downey, CA 90241

City of Downey

Press Release

STS-133 Launch Party Held at the Columbia Memorial Space Center

Downey, CA, March 2, 2011

On Thursday, February 24, 2011, the Columbia Memorial Space Center hosted a Launch Party to send off the crew of STS-133 as the Space Shuttle *Discovery* embarked on its final planned mission. The launch was viewed via NASA TV on the Center's brand new 12-foot Media Wall. In-house experts were present to discuss all aspects of human space flight. Launch time was at approximately 1:50 pm local time and the Space Center had a full house of children present in the upstairs theater and a nice crowd of walk-in guests downstairs. "It is exciting to be able to provide these types of events to those who visit the Columbia Memorial Space Center. The STS-133 Launch served as an educational experience and provided those in attendance with an insight into space exploration," said Mayor Luis Marquez.

The Columbia Memorial Space Center offers many exciting events throughout the year. More information can be found by visiting its website at www.columbiaspacescience.org. "We could not be anymore proud of what the Space Center has to offer and we invite all who have not had an opportunity to visit to take advantage of the wonderful exhibits and labs that are available," commented Mayor Pro Tem Roger Brossmer.

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For Immediate Release