SCOBEE EDUCATION CENTER

“No pessimist ever discovered the secrets of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new heaven to the human spirit.” - Helen Keller

Challenger Learning Center

ARTEMIS ACADEMY FOR GIRLS - NOW IN SESSION

In 2020, the Alamo Chapter of AFCEA in Bexar County picked up the challenge and fully funded the week-long, all-girls summer camp and Scobee Girls STEM Summit. The camp was to be reborn as the Artemis Academy for Girls and was “Go for Launch” as the shadow of COVID-19 descended upon the globe. As pretty much every service Scobee could provide shifted to virtual or digital opportunities, we held onto to this valuable strategy and under the direction of our newest team member, Heather Aguillon, the Artemis Academy for Girls actually has expanded. Lifting off on Thursday, January 7th, 2021 as a virtual STEAM Club, the Artemis Academy for Girls will meet weekly to develop the STEM Identities of the 28 girls accepted into this program.

One of the unique features of the Artemis Academy’s activities will be our new partnership with the Astra Femina organization. From the Latin, Astra Femina basically translates to women astronauts and the core membership of this amazing group of women is just that, women who have served as astronauts with NASA. As the organization has expanded over the past year, they now include women who have served in a wide variety of significant STEM careers related to the space program. Their sole mission is to provide inspiration as role models for young girls to pursue the abundant opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math careers. Just as many of these women were trail blazers in their respective careers, they will encourage girls to ignite their imagination for a renewed creativity and curiosity in those areas that are already fundamentally of interest to them. For each girl they encounter these amazing speakers will encourage them to persist and launch a new trajectory for success in STEM fields.

It is our hope that each month one of these talented, inspirational women will be able to meet virtually with our cadre of eager Artemis Academy girls. Following the live programs, our Scobee staff will record these sessions to make them available through our YouTube Channel for others to also be inspired.

Until the next time, ad siderum or to the stars!
Classroom Adventures is a new online product licensed by the Challenger Center that makes this possible... without leaving the classroom!

Teachers can license the use of three adventures Aquatic Investigators, Dirt Decoders, and Nature Rangers for a 3rd to 5th grade class of four to fifty students on a $10 per student rate for an entire year. With online training included in the license, teachers may run these 60 minute 'missions' within their classrooms on their iOS or Android tablet compatible devices and their schedule.

To learn more about Classroom Adventures, email the Scobee director, Rick Varner rvarner4@alamo.edu or contact the national office directly for Sales and Licensing: adventures@challenger.org or call 202-827-1580.

EUROPA ENCOUNTER - STARTING IN FEBRUARY

It is the year 2042 and astronauts have traveled from Earth to Jupiter’s moon, Europa, to launch a probe into its icy depths. The mission’s goal is to send the probe deep into the massive ocean lying beneath the ice sheets studied by the Europa Clipper in the 2020s. The salty ocean contains more water than all the Earth’s oceans combined and there is so much to learn about this mysterious moon.

The Europa Encounter is a virtual mission run by Scobee Mission Commanders with a classroom of 5th, 6th or 7th grade students who may be in hybrid, virtual or in-person classes. The student team of 13 works the jobs of the mission control stations and delivering essential information to the commander aboard the spacecraft. Will they protect the commander from high levels of radiation, successfully send the probe to the frozen surface and fire the spacecraft engines in a timely manner to reach the moon or return to the Jupiter Gateway? Completing their tasks in a timely manner, these adventurous student teams will successfully complete their encounter with the frozen moon, Europa.

A typical mission utilizes zoom meeting technology, a web browser interface, and runs between 60 – 90 minutes in length at a fee of $100 per mission. Reservations for available launch times are made through sac-ScobeeCtr@alamo.edu Monday through Friday.

Scobee Planetarium

SKY TONIGHT- NOW OFFERING

"THE SKY TONIGHT" takes the audience on a "live" virtual tour of the wonders of the San Antonio night sky. This program highlights the Moon, the visible evening and morning planets, plus identifies several of the brightest stars and constellations in the current night sky. Plus, any special celestial events are also highlighted. This program is recommended if you have a wide variety of ages attending the planetarium.

Duration: 45 minutes.
Fee: $100 per presentation

ASTRONOMY ON TAP

Virtual Event on January 27th at 7:00pm
Register HERE
Speakers: Anicia Arredondo - Infrared Telescopes to study Asteroids
Kevin Delano - Solar plasmas and it's impact on Earth's Magnetic Field

FREE VIRTUAL PLANETARIUM SHOWS - LIMITED TIME OFFER

January - Dinosaurs at Dusk - Tickets
Feb – Mars 1001 (in honor of Perseverance landing on Mars)
March – Zula Patrol (for age 6 and younger)
April – Dynamic Earth (Earth Day)

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