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SPACE MUSEUM 2.0: CREATING A NEW SPACE MUSEUM WITH THE INVOLVMENT AND
PARTICIPATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Abstract

The paper will explore the methodology of establishment of a new space museum in Israel, as a part of the Ashdod International Space Center.

The author is the founding curator of the space museum, with an experience of curating several international space exhibitions, design of space related artifacts for science museums and planetariums for more than 25 years, including years of experience as the director of a special science museum for kids and 15 years of developing curricula for the Weizmann Institute of Science "Garden of Science - an outdoor interdisciplinary science museum.

One of the innovative outreach activities of the new museum and science center is to use the new media as a tool to reach the general public - from kindergarten students to adults, and make them partners in the design process, with influence on the thematic aspects of the museum, collections, and desired attractions.

The process of creating a portfolio for the museum will be discussed, along with the author's experience in cooperation with science and space museums worldwide.

The opportunity of creating a new museum is also an opportunity to reach out the community - through the internet and new media, competitions among students - from K-12 to university students in architecture, design and science teaching. There is no limit to "space education and outreach" and through smart use of new media the museum will affect the general public years before it will open its gates.

It is my hope to be able to give a progress reports in the coming years. The author is a member of the space museums and science center's committee of the International Astronautical Federation, and through this committee and the IAF, it is my hope to gain from the experience of fellow college curators and directors - and create a true international space museum which will reflect the IAF motto: connecting space people.