



Hello!

Grand Valley State University and the Grand Rapids Public Museum are proud to bring you the ninth annual ***Roger That!*** symposium on the weekend of **February 14-15, 2025**. This event is a celebration of space exploration in honor of native Grand Rapidsian and Michigan's first astronaut, Roger B. Chaffee. On Friday, the events at GVSU are free and open to the public and will feature NASA astronaut Commander John Herrington. On Friday and Saturday, STEAM related activities at the GRPM associated with the conference are free for Kent county children (included with general admission for all others).

We also invite 4th – 8th grade students to participate in ***Design That!*** - a design challenge that focuses on four major areas related to space exploration – Humans in Space, Communities in Space, Technology in Space, and Communication in Space. **The online submission site for 2025 is open and full details for participation can be found online [here](#).** Projects will be displayed at GVSU all day on Friday, February 14th and the top 10 projects will also be displayed all day at GRPM on Saturday, February 15th.

Participation in ***Design That!*** can align with the following K-12 Standards:

- **Michigan K-12 Science Standards Performance Expectations:** MS-PS2-1. Forces and Interactions; MS-PS3-3. Energy; MS-LS2-5. Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems; MS-ESS1-2. Space Systems; MS-ESS3-3. Human Impacts; MS-ETS1-1 through MS-ETS1-4. Engineering design.
- **NGSS Science and Engineering Practices:** Defining Problems, Developing and Using Models, Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions, Engaging in Argument from Evidence, Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information
- **ELA Common Core Standards by Domain:** Comprehension and Collaboration, Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas, Production and Distribution of writing, Research to Build and Present Knowledge

Finally, we will have **free STEM kits** available for distribution in early January; these kits are available on a first-requested, first-served basis and include instructions and equipment for hands-on science experiments related to sound. They're designed for 5th grade students, but any classroom can request and receive the kits. **Learn more about the kits and how to request them [here](#).**

Thanks, and we hope to see you at Roger That!

Brad Ambrose, GVSU Physics, and Samhita Rhodes, GVSU Engineering

PS: Contact us via email at rogerthat@gvsu.edu. More information at www.gvsu.edu/rogerthat.