FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Interplanetary space travel has been a human dream since the first pair of eyes turned heavenward and gazed at the stars. When astronaut John Glenn orbited the Earth in 1962, Americans sensed the inevitability of their dreams. Like a glowing target, the nearby Moon beckoned seductively. Seven years later, on July 20, 1969, the world watched breathlessly as Apollo 11 Commander Neil Armstrong clambored from the Eagle and proclaimed "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." The conquest of the Moon was a victory for the American space program and the fulfillment of centuries of dreams.

In honor of this historic achievement, President George Bush and Postmaster General Anthony M. Frank dedicated a special Priority Mail Moon Landing stamp. The U.S. Postal Service is especially proud to issue this stamp on the 20th anniversary of Apollo 11's monumental accomplishment. The stamp designer, Christopher Calle, is the son of Paul Calle, the veteran illustrator who produced the 1969 First Man on the Moon airmail stamp.