

SCIENCE MUSEUMS OF CHARLOTTE, INC.



08-102

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August 13, 1991

Mrs. Jean Ellis CB/Astronaut Appearances Office NASA Johnson Space Center Houston, Texas 77058

Dear Mrs. Ellis:

On the evening of Friday, November 1 we will have our black-tie gala opening of the Michael J. Smith Wing of Discovery Place. Saturday, November 2 at 11:00 a.m. will be the official ribbon cutting ceremonies of the Wing. The Wing will contain an OMNIMAX Theatre and a Spitz Voyager Planetarium. The only combination like this in the world is in Singapore and the planetarium will be the largest in the nation. Presently Discovery Place is one of the top ten science centers in the United States.

We are honored to name our new Wing after Captain Michael J. Smith who was from North Carolina. Jane Smith Wolcott will be in Charlotte to be a part of these festivities.

Formal invitations are now being prepared for the occasion, but Jane suggested I write to the NASA Johnson Space Center to request the presence of an astronaut, or several to help us honor Michael J. Smith.

On Friday evening, November 1, we are anticipating 500 guests. The evening will be a cocktail buffet with entertainment throughout the museum.

On Saturday, November 2, we anticipate 10,000 - 15,000 visitors through the Museum. We will have a brunch after the ribbon cutting ceremonies for our official guests.

I am aware that your guidelines call for us to incur all expenses for an astronaut and spouse and, of course, we will adhere to those regulations.

Spaces reimburement is not a requirement They know that to offer it. Trated improperly, they said

Science Museums of Charlotte, Inc. 301 North Tryon Street Charlotte, NC 28202, 704-372-6261 Discovery Place 301 North Tryon Street Nature Museum 1658 Sterling Road

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I hope that you will favorably consider this request. This is an important occasion for us and we anticipate local and national publicity. To date we have had coverage in the USAir Magazine, Travel South and Souther Living Magazine.

Please call me if you require further information.

Sincerely,

B. G. Metzler

Vice President of Public Relations and Marketing