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## SpaceKids Global Announces "Making Space For Girls" STEAM Challenge In Collaboration With Girl Scouts

**ORLANDO, FL – Monday, August 24, 2020** – SpaceKids Global, the Florida-based, non-profit established to use space exploration for engaging children in STEAM learning, announces its inaugural "Making Space For Girls Challenge," a science challenge conducted in collaboration with Girl Scouts Citrus Council in Central Florida.

"Making Space For Girls" is an opportunity for Girl Scouts across the country to submit a science experiment that would be sent to the International Space Station (ISS) for study. The launch date is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, 2021. Girl Scouts between the ages of 6 to 18 are eligible to participate.

Ideas are to be submitted to <u>Making Space for Girls</u> website no later than 11:59 p.m. Thursday, October 22, 2020.

The concept for the challenge originated with Sharon Hagle, founder and CEO of SpaceKids Global, and who with her husband, is a future astronaut scheduled to be among the early flights with Virgin Galactic into space.

"We have had this idea in the works for quite some time, but currently, it is clear how important science is to all of us," Hagle said. "I want girls to become engaged and embrace science and its many facets and make our world so much safer and better. This is an amazing opportunity intended to inspire girls to take that first step."

Maryann Barry, CEO of Girl Scouts Citrus, shares Hagle's love of space exploration and immediately loved Hagle's proposal. Barry and her team will notify the 110 councils across the country about the challenge and all it has to offer.

"This could not be more timely, relevant or exciting with the country's heightened activity and attention on space," Barry said. "It creates a remarkable opportunity for young girls and a perfect example of the impact science, technology, engineering and math have on each of us."

Hagle added, "This challenge also provides a great way to redirect young girls' attention and time through a learning opportunity with remarkable outcomes and rewards."

The collaboration with the local Girl Scouts is ideal, Hagle said. She and Barry share lifetime interests in becoming astronauts. Both said the Girl Scout organization provides a perfect channel for the challenge because Girl Scouts is designed to create opportunities for girls to discover their potential and take action in big ways.

Ideas are to be submitted to <u>www.Makingspaceforgirls.com</u> website. A judging panel will review the submissions and select a project that best fits research in space.

## **ABOUT SPACEKIDS GLOBAL**

SpaceKidsGlobal's mission is to inspire young minds through the exploration of space travel with a focus on elementary students in STEAM+Education; Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics+ Environment and the empowerment of young girls. For more information, visit spacekids.global.com.

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