

NASA ASTRONAUT JOSE HERNANDEZ TO APPEAR AT THE NATIONAL SPACE SOCIETY'S INTERNATIONAL SPACE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Former Astronaut was the Subject of the Amazon Hit Movie "A Million Miles Away"

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, USA, April 10, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Former NASA astronaut and STEM advocate Jose Hernandez will give a keynote speech at the [National Space Society's 2024 International Space Development](#)

[Conference](#)[®] (ISDC[®]), as well as addressing youth attending the conference's STEM sessions.



Mr. Hernandez is emblematic of the best America has to offer. Despite facing innumerable challenges as a young man, he persevered and ultimately achieved his goal of flying in space."

Dale Skran, NSS COO/SVP

Hernandez followed a unique path into his career as an astronaut. Growing up as the son of migrant farmworkers in Central California, his hopes of going into space seemed an impossible reach, but his father encouraged him to work toward his dreams. Despite moving from town to town and not learning English until he was 12, Hernandez excelled in school, going on to earn a BS in electrical engineering from the University of the Pacific and an MS in

computer and electrical engineering from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He worked at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory from 1990 until 2001, developing the first full-field digital mammography system.

During this time, he applied several times to be an astronaut. On his 12th attempt, he was finally accepted and began training in 2004, and upon completion was assigned to space shuttle launch and landing operations at the Kennedy Space Center. He began training for shuttle flight STS-128 in 2008 and flew in 2009 as a mission specialist.

"Mr. Hernandez is emblematic of the best America has to offer," said Dale Skran, NSS COO and SVP. "Despite facing innumerable challenges as a young man, he persevered and ultimately achieved his goal of flying in space. His wonderful example of tenacity shows us all what is possible, and he has been an incredible role model for countless STEM students nationwide."

Hernandez has received multiple awards in his career, including two NASA Service Awards, an Outstanding Engineer Award from Lawrence Livermore, UC Santa Barbara's Distinguished Alumnus Award, the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Award, and was a Graduate Engineering Minority Fellow, among many other accomplishments and recognitions.

"The ISDC is the only major space conference that is intended for everyone, from space professionals to students to the lay public. It is the largest and longest running space conference anywhere," said Aggie Kobrin, the NSS Event Manager. "We're thrilled to have inspirational figures like Mr. Hernandez inspiring not just our young attendees, but all of us—his message resonates with everyone."



Jose Hernandez Credit: NASA

Other notables at this year's ISDC include "Star Trek" star William Shatner, former NASA astronaut Susan Kilrain, Dr. Alan Stern of NASA's New Horizons mission, Dr. Pascal Lee of the SETI Institute and NASA Ames, Chief Engineer of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory Rob Manning, Jordan Noone of Embedded Ventures, "Janet's Planet" host and NSS Governor Janet Ivey, and Melissa Navia, star of "Star Trek: Strange New Worlds." A full list of featured speakers can be found at the [ISDC website](#).

ABOUT THE NSS

The National Space Society was founded in 1987 via a merger of the National Space Institute and the L5 Society. The NSS is the preeminent citizen's voice on space exploration, development, and settlement. To learn more about the NSS and its mission to establish humanity as a spacefaring species, visit us on the web at nss.org.

Aggie Kobrin

National Space Society

+1 949-836-8464

[email us here](#)

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram](#)

[YouTube](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/701307031>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2024 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.