

The Future of Business in Pittsburgh

October 2022

Moonshot Museum Shows the Future of the Space Industry in Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh's [Moonshot Museum](#), which opened on October 15, is the first museum on the planet to focus on career readiness for the contemporary space industry. Launching a new model for collaboration between education-focused nonprofits and innovative industry, Moonshot Museum sends visitors on simulated lunar missions designed to propel young people of all backgrounds to pursue space-related careers across the spectrum of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM), including space careers in medicine, business, law, policy, and the humanities.



Pittsburgh's Moonshot Museum opened on October 15

"The Moonshot Museum is a decade-long dream turned reality. It was designed for the community to literally step into the world of the space industry. We want young people to see themselves in our work, meet the real people building spacecraft, and discover that there's a place for them in space," said John Thornton, founding board member of Moonshot Museum and Astrobotic CEO.

The Moonshot Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization aiming to inspire both the Pittsburgh region and beyond. Its mission is to make space more accessible by inspiring a diverse new generation to write the future of space commerce, science, exploration, and settlement. Partnered with Pittsburgh-based space robotics company [Astrobotic](#), the Museum features a wall of glass through which visitors will watch real lunar landers being built and readied to fly to the Moon. This unprecedented visibility plugs guests into the real-time work of space through immersive simulated mission experiences, real space industry problem-solving, and direct access to Pittsburgh space professionals.

"After years of designing, thinking, building, prototyping, and engaging with students and members of the Pittsburgh community, we cannot wait to welcome visitors to explore a museum unlike any other. We're thrilled to light a unique spark of space-centered curiosity in our community and spotlight the incredible space industry here in Western Pennsylvania," said Sam Moore, Moonshot Museum Executive Director.

Pittsburgh Robotics Discovery Day to Showcase World Leading Robotics Cluster

Pittsburgh's world leading robotics ecosystem will be showcased during a large-scale public event on Wednesday, November 16 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh. The event, known as Pittsburgh Robotics Discovery Day, demystifies robotics by providing students, job seekers, the business community, and others with an opportunity to experience groundbreaking robotics and artificial intelligence technologies while speaking directly with the entrepreneurs, roboticists, and engineers making them a reality.



Organized by the Pittsburgh Robotics Network, Discovery Day will feature three Discovery Zones enabling attendees to explore various components of the industry cluster. A “Robotics” zone will feature live demonstrations and exhibitions of innovations from a variety of Pittsburgh companies including [Agility Robotics](#), [Near Earth Autonomy](#), [Argo AI](#), [Aurora](#), [Sarcos](#), and dozens more. Two other zones, “Education and Training” and “Community”, will feature workforce development and job training programs, STEM initiatives, entrepreneur support, and other organizations that support Pittsburgh's autonomy cluster.

“Discovery Day offers something for everyone, and it provides us with a unique opportunity to share the work we're so passionate about with the larger Pittsburgh community,” said Joel Reed, Executive Director, Pittsburgh Robotics Network. “In addition to highlighting the robots being created in our region, our hope is to help inspire lifelong STEM learning and pave the way for the next generation of robotics.”

The daytime portion of the event is free and open to the public, and will be followed by a ticketed evening networking reception. Sponsors of the event include [Smart Manufacturing Experience](#), [Joe Zeff Design](#), [90.5 WESA](#), [BotsIQ](#), [Bally Design](#), [Daedalus](#), [Seegrid](#), [PMI Digital](#) and others. Learn more and register at <https://robopgh.org/discoveryday>

Pittsburgh Business News and Updates

- Gather AI, which uses drones to track inventory, raises \$10 million series A (<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/inno/stories/fundings/2022/10/06/drone-warehouse-robotics-company-raises-10-million.html>)
- 16 leading startups featured at Innovation Works' startup showcase (<https://technical.ly/startups/innovation-works-new-portfolio-showcase-pittsburgh/>)
- Pittsburgh's Rapid Flow Technologies acquired by Canadian-based Miovision (<https://betakit.com/miovision-acquires-pittsburgh-firm-rapid-flow-to-bolster-its-traffic-management-systems/>)
- Gecko Robotics teams up with Siemens Energy for European project (<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/inno/stories/profiles/2022/10/14/gecko-robotics-siemens-energy-partnership-europe.html>)
- Seiko Sisco discusses life in Pittsburgh and her business, Waku Waku Baby (<https://theincline.com/2022/10/19/locals-to-know-meet-seiko-sisco-chemist-turned-maker-of-adorable-goods/>)



About Ryan

Ryan O'Shea is a JETRO Investment Advisor focused on connecting Japanese companies to opportunities in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is the host of Future Grind, a podcast that explores the ethics and impact of emerging science and technology, and also works with the Pittsburgh Robotics Network. In 2017, Ryan co-founded an artificial intelligence startup that was named a Top 10 team in the IBM Watson AI XPRIZE. Ryan has represented NASA and CalTech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory as a Solar System Ambassador and serves both as a World Economic Forum Global Shaper and an ambassador for Pittsburgh AI. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh & serves on the boards of multiple non-profit organizations.