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GSFC Solar System Exploration Division at the 2018 USA Science & Engineering Festival

From April 6–8, 2018, NASA scientists and outreach professionals participated in the USA Science and Engineering Festival at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. The Solar System Exploration Division of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center hosted two booths at the event, both organized by Andrea Jones of the Planetary Science Institute and NASA GSFC. The booths featured Goddard's support of lunar and martian science and exploration. At the Moon table, visitors learned about the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter mission and were able to touch terrestrial analogs of lunar rock types, feel 3D models of the Apollo landing sites, and sign their name on a place they want to visit on the Moon. The Mars table featured models of the Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) instrument suite, the Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity rover, the Mars Organic Molecule Analyzer (MOMA) of ESA's ExoMars Rover, a full-sized Curiosity rover wheel, and a mold of Gale Crater. With an estimated attendance of over 350,000 visitors over the course of the 3-day Expo, this is one of the largest science festivals in the country, allowing us to reach out to, encourage, and inspire many future scientists.

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