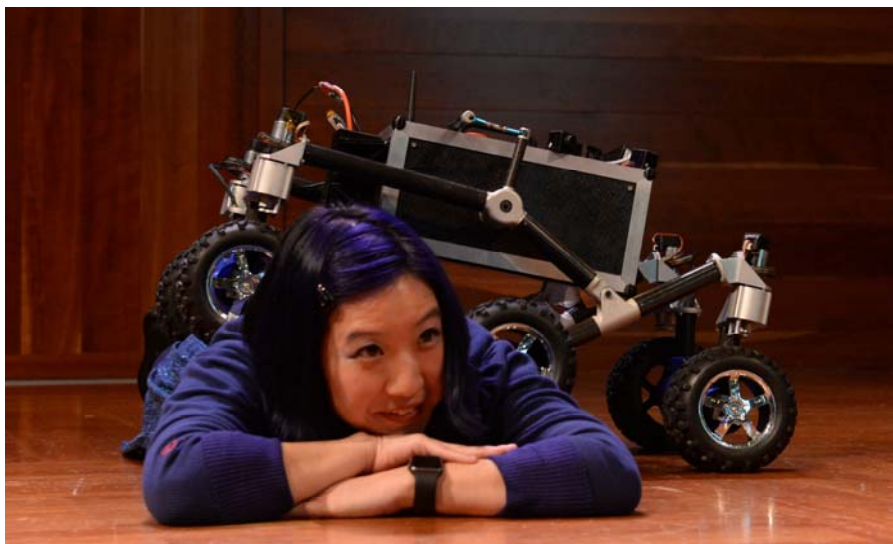


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Robotic Rover Lands at LAPL to Launch Teen Tech Week

Demonstration of Small, Light-Weight Rove-E Includes A Librarian “Roll Over”



JPL's robotic rover, "Rove-E," rolls over Acting Principal Librarian Candice Mack as part of JPL's demonstration to help Los Angeles Public Library kick off Teen Tech Week.

LOS ANGELES (March 8, 2016) – A robotic rover landed at Central Library today to launch Teen Tech Week at the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL). More than 200 local 6th through 12th grade students were treated to a demonstration of Rov-E by Sarah Marcotte of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). Candice Mack, LAPL's Acting Principal Librarian for Young Adult Services, volunteered for a unique demonstration of the small rover's light-weight maneuverability: a "librarian roll over." "It was great, just like a massage!" said Mack.

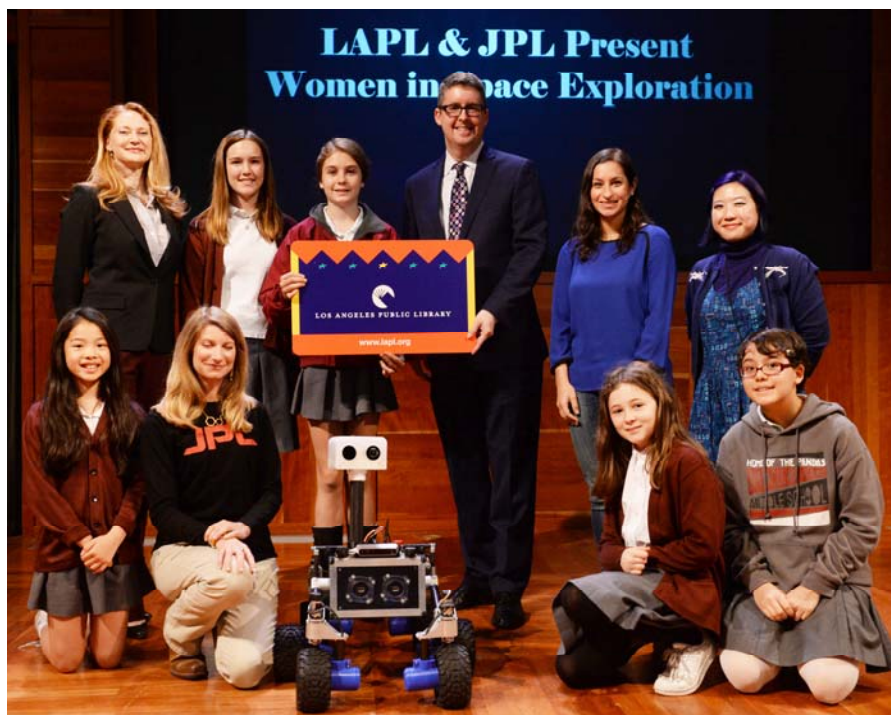
The program, "Women In Space Exploration," also focused attention on gender equity in science and technology in celebration of Women's Heritage Month. Marcotte and Mallory Lefland, a JPL systems engineer with the Mars 2020 Rover Mission, both discussed their careers and encouraged young women to pursue careers in space exploration. The program also featured City Librarian John F. Szabo and the First Lady of Los Angeles, Amy Elaine Wakeland.

(more)

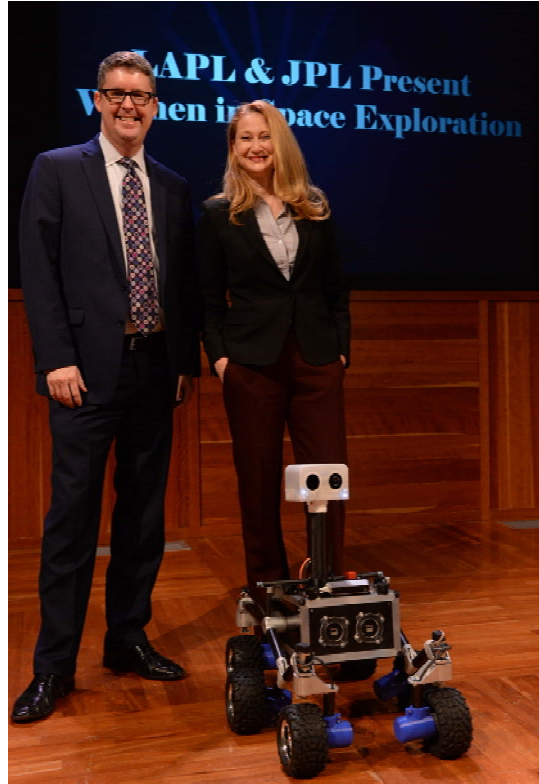
Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

The Los Angeles Public Library not only offers STEAM programs during Teen Tech Week, but all year long, including programs such as Squishy Circuits, Artbots, Teen Coding Club, Stop Motion Animation, Learn to DJ, Create a Robot, Electronic Greeting Cards and more at Central Library and 72 branch libraries. The library also has a wide range of programs celebrating Women's Heritage Month at lapl.org/whm. For STEAM programs, visit lapl.org/teensteam. The programs are designed to engage young people from diverse backgrounds in fun hands-on activities that touch on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math.

A 2015 recipient of the nation's highest honor for library service—the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than 6 million books, state-of-the-art technology accessible at www.lapl.org, and more than 18,000 public programs a year provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.



Los Angeles First Lady Amy Elaine Wakeland joined City Librarian John F. Szabo, Acting Principal Librarian Candice Mack, Immaculate Heart Middle School students, and JPL's robotic rover, ROV-E, for a special JPL presentation, "Women In Space Exploration," at the Los Angeles Public Library's kick off of Teen Tech Week and Women's Heritage Month. Also pictured are JPL program presenters, (front row, near ROV-E) Sarah Marcotte, Mars Public Engagement division; and (back row, second from right) Mallory Lefland, Systems Engineer, Mars 2020 Rover Mission.



Los Angeles First Lady Amy Elaine Wakeland and City Librarian John F. Szabo join JPL's robotic rover, ROV-E, for a special presentation, "Women In Space Exploration," at the Los Angeles Public Library's kick off of Teen Tech Week and Women's Heritage Month.



Acting Principal Young Adult Librarian Candice Mack volunteers for a librarian roll over by the JPL robotic rover, ROV-E, on March 7 during a JPL program, "Women In Space Exploration," at the Los Angeles Public Library's kick off of Teen Tech Week and Women's Heritage Month. The robotic rover is controlled by JPL's Sarah Marcotte, Mars Public Engagement division.

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