



'All Systems Are Go' Snoopy show debuts at NASA visitor complex



All Systems Are Go. Click to view and enlarge video in new pop-up window. (KSCVC)

March 25, 2023 — Snoopy, the Peanuts gang and NASA's plans for exploring the moon received a "go" to launch as a new stage show debuted at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Florida.

In "All Systems Are Go," Charles Schulz' iconic comic strip

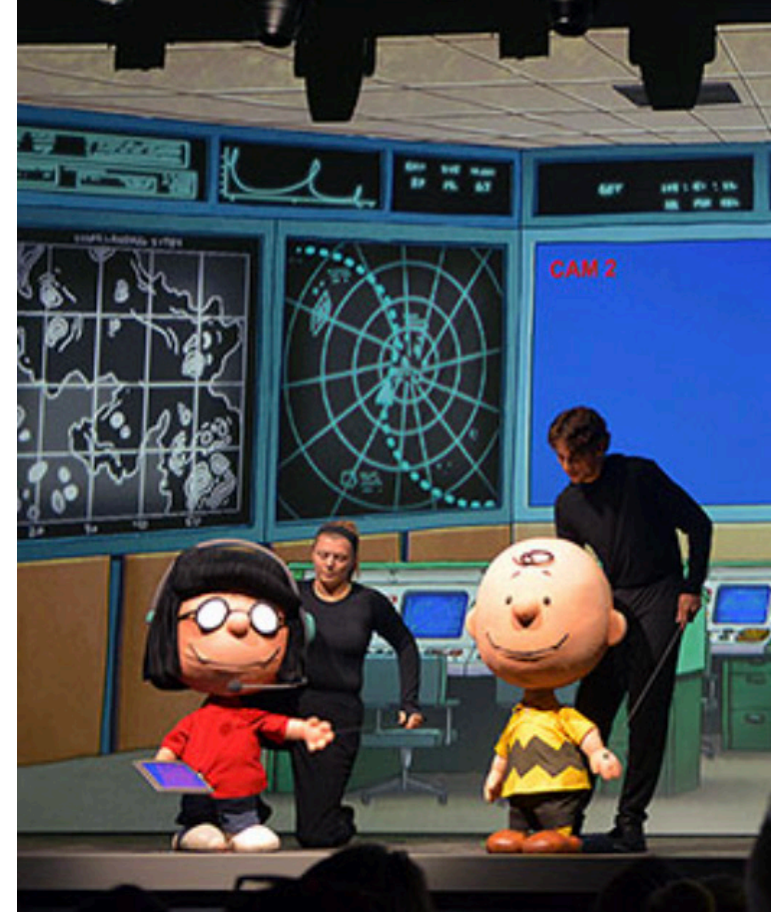
characters are brought to life for the first time as life-size puppets that walk, talk and even float weightless in the microgravity environment of space. The 20-minute production combines expansive digital video projections, lighting effects and an original soundtrack that together bring guests along as Snoopy, Charlie Brown, Lucy and more learn about and share in NASA's past, present and future missions.

"It's probably one of the most clever shows I have ever seen," said Therrin Protze, chief operating officer for the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, as he greeted the first audience to experience "All Systems Are Go" on Friday morning (March 24). "It's different, but it's educational and a lot of fun."

As the show begins, Snoopy and his feathered friend Woodstock receive a letter from NASA launch director Charlie Blackwell-Thompson. After more than 50 years of service as a safety mascot for the U.S. human spaceflight program, Snoopy is needed by the space agency again. This time, he is to report for training as NASA prepares to go back to the moon.

"Excuse me, I'm looking for my dog, Snoopy. He's a black and white beagle with delusions of grandeur," says Charlie Brown as he arrives at NASA.

"It's really hard to describe the emotions," said Blackwell-Thompson, reacting to



Puppeteers bring Marcie, Charlie Brown, Snoopy and Woodstock to life as they learn about NASA's Artemis moon missions during "All Systems Are Go," the new 20-minute show now at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Florida.

seeing herself in the show. "Snoopy is so special. He was special to me when I was growing up, and special to kids today."

Blackwell-Thompson appears in a recorded video segment as part of the show.

"Then to have that connection

to space and inspire the next generation, knowing the places we are going to go, it was an incredibly special experience for me. I just felt very blessed to be part of that," she said in an interview with collectSPACE.

As explained by the Peanuts characters (who are voiced by

the same child actors featured in the Apple TV+ series "Snoopy in Space"), Artemis is intended to pick up and build upon the work started by Apollo. The program will prepare astronauts to not just return to the lunar surface, but adapt to living there in preparation for expeditions to Mars and more distant spots in our solar system.

"I think anytime that we connect our youth to what we're doing in exploration is incredible," said Blackwell-Thompson. "It's so important because it is that generation, that next generation — that Artemis generation — that is going to sustain a presence on the moon and that is going to go to Mars and be those first footprints."

"I think anytime that we have an opportunity to reach out to our youth and to inspire them to share our history and share in our future, where we are going, it is a very special experience for me," she said.

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ASA Artemis launch director Charlie Blackwell-Thompson writes a letter to Snoopy as the beagle and his feathered friend Woodstock sleep. The scene is from "All Systems Are Go," now open with daily shows at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

In addition to Blackwell-Thompson, "All Systems Are Go" features Peanuts-style illustrations and animations of NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) rocket and Orion spacecraft, like what was used to send a one-of-a-kind Snoopy doll around the moon on the

Artemis I mission in 2022, and what will carry four astronauts back to the moon as soon as the end of next year.

At one point in the show (described as a "few years from now"), Lucy and Sally don spacesuits to represent NASA's pledge to land the first woman on the moon, while Franklin does the same to stand in for the first person of color.

"I wonder if they would con-

sider letting me be the first woman on the moon," Lucy ponders in an earlier scene.

"I think you need years of training to be an astronaut," replies Charlie Brown.

"That's true, and I do have plans for later today," says Lucy. "Plus those suits — orange really isn't my color."

"I'm happy to see how people were receptive and liked the characters in the puppet form," said Ella Louise Al-laïre, chief executive officer and founder of Monlove, the Montreal-based production company that created "All Systems Are Go" for Peanuts Worldwide and NASA.

"I was happy to see people laughing at the jokes. I think it was very nice because you never know if people are going to like them."

Travel and accommodations to cover the premiere of "All Systems Are Go" were provided by Delaware North Companies, which operates Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex for NASA.



Charlie Brown and Snoopy contemplate the moon in "All Systems Are Go," the new stage show at NASA's Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Florida.



The stars and the performers behind them pose for a photo together at the debut performance of "All Systems Are Go" at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Florida, on Friday, March 24, 2023.)

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