

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



## **Quest for Stars announces the StratoShuttle Student Shuttle Program (SSP)**

**Palo Alto, CA** (February 28, 2012) – Quest for Stars, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, is pleased to announce the much anticipated StratoShuttle Student Shuttle Program. The first ever of its kind, The StratoShuttle Program seeks high school and college level students to compete in the design, construction, and flight testing of a Nearspace Shuttle.

The Student Shuttle Program will allow up to five teams across the nation to compete. The selected teams will be chosen by a panel of judges and will submit a YouTube video and written essay for consideration. The video and essay will describe how the team would take on the challenges and complexities of high altitude flight. The selected student teams will have their designs test-flown in designated airspace in an attempt to break both FAI and Guinness World Records. Open Registration for the program will begin on March 19th via online forms at [www.questforstars.com](http://www.questforstars.com).

The launch window for the first flight of the Student Shuttle Program is scheduled to open on April 7, 2012. StratoShuttle “Horizon” (SSP-1) will launch either from Kennedy Space Center or off the coast of Southern California. The flight plan calls for the recovery of the Shuttle by landing on a moving boat and will set another record—the first spacecraft to make a controlled landing on a moving boat.

“With the end of the Space Shuttle Program, students told our staff they wanted a Shuttle Program of their own. Students challenged us to work harder to clear the program with the FAA,” said Bobby Russell, CEO and Founder of Quest for Stars. “We met the student challenge and believe this program will fill an inspirational gap with the retirement of the Space Shuttle Fleet and propel students towards degrees in STEM studies. The program will also generate more citizen scientists and explorers.”

### **About Quest for Stars**

Quest for Stars is a nonprofit organization that works in partnership with Schools, college, and communities to promote STEM education. Quest for Stars encourages children and young adults to reach for the stars by exposure to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) educational concepts and their application to space research. Quest for Stars partners with other companies like the Motorola Foundation to provide low-cost access to space. The shared mission: to inspire the next generation of explorers, visit [www.questforstars.com](http://www.questforstars.com)

A video Trailer for the Program can be seen here:

[StratoShuttle Program Video Trailer](#)

For More information about the Student Shuttle Program, visit:

<http://www.questforstars.com>

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