

COCA-COLA SPACE SCIENCE CENTER

The Coca-Cola Space Science Center (CCSSC) is a division of Columbus State University in the College of Education and Health Professions. The CCSSC serves as an academic enrichment center for the university and a regional informal education institution for the Columbus area. Established in 1996, the CCSSC is Georgia's only science center and museum facility dedicated to providing experiences for students and public visitors in astronomy and space science. It is the home to the largest collection of NASA Space Shuttle artifacts in the State of Georgia. Visitors include walk-in patrons, K-12 school groups from across the region, corporate and community organizations, and the university community.

The CCSSC is dedicated to working with students on all levels. Faculty and staff at CCSSC engage with K-12 students through educational programming on site, as well as visits to their schools. They also engage with CSU students through a variety of opportunities. Education students from the College of Education and Health Professions participate in educational programs and practicum experiences with visiting K-12 students. Additionally, the CCSSC is a key facility for the Department of Earth and Space Sciences. In addition to hosting a number of its Astronomy and Physics courses, CCSSC also provides support for student and faculty research. The university's WestRock Observatory features a research-grade telescope and imaging system where CSU students train for careers in astronomy. Finally, CSU Student Assistants learn important work skills as part of the daily operations at the CCSSC by operating the Omnisphere Theater, leading or assisting in K-12 educational activities, cashing and re-stocking our gift shop or helping point telescopes for Astronomy Nights.

For more information on the Coca-Cola Space Science Center, visit www.ccssc.org (<http://www.ccssc.org>).