

# What is the Mars New Year celebration all about?

During our Earth days of **May 31<sup>st</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019** downtown Mars, PA, will be celebrating the planet **MARS** 35<sup>th</sup> New Year! Scientific data determined planet **MARS** New Year 1 was our April 11, 1955. Their one calendar year (the time it takes Mars to circle the sun) equals our 687 Earth days!

NASA successfully made its first trip to Mars ...the Butler County borough, that is, at our June 2015 inaugural event (Mars New Year 33)! It was a stellar educational celebration focusing on S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math)! NASA-JPL (Jet Propulsion Laboratories), PITT Mobile Science Lab, Carnegie Science, & WTAE Live Weather participated in this first celebration. JPL brought several scientists for educational presentations, AND there were several thousand people in attendance according to Butler Tourism! This festival's goal is to encourage young people to pursue careers in these critical fields of study that will enable NASA's journey to Mars...the actual planet! Plus, every Earthling can enjoy the wonders of this Next Great Frontier during the Mars New Year celebration!



## Meet the **MARS** Challenge!



**What is "Meet the MARS Challenge!"?** There is a mission of colonizing 100 Earthlings to live on the planet **MARS**, the Next Great Frontier. The student determines a specific problem, challenge, or need that this colony would face in this new settlement AND then that student would try to solve it!"

**Why should students get involved in the MARS Challenge?** This is a great S.T.E.A.M. challenge that will be rewarding! It gives the student an opportunity to meet professionals from multiple fields of expertise. Exhibiting to the public and possibly awarded a cash prize brings the student, their school district, and community distinction! If your school is currently doing a science fair, great! As long as you keep our requirements in mind while accomplishing your school requirements, you could make 1 project and present it at 2 events: your school and at the Mars New Year celebration. If your school doesn't have a science fair, that's not a problem. Meet our requirements, create a Mars challenge, and present it to us!

**How can students get involved in the MARS Challenge?** School districts, teachers, and adults in general can be encouraging students by informing them of this unique challenge so they can exhibit their solution (as they would for a science fair) and possibly win prizes!!! Any 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grader interested can easily go to the website: [www.MarsNewYear.com](http://www.MarsNewYear.com) and look for the "STUDENT CHALLENGE" tab for an explanation and further information. Soon, an online submission form and deadlines will be posted! There will be a "cap" on the number of entries, so be mindful to get your entry in as soon as it is posted!

### **MARS is the Next Great Frontier!**

**Students, participate in "Meet the MARS Challenge!", enjoy the festivities in downtown Mars, and grab the opportunity of meeting NASA representatives and noted scientists!!!**

NASA has a great arts, sciences, and technology education initiative of this fascinating planet called "Imagine Mars". Students & Educators will find these websites of interest: [mars.nasa.gov/imagine/](http://mars.nasa.gov/imagine/) AND [mars.nasa.gov/participate/marsforeducators/](http://mars.nasa.gov/participate/marsforeducators/)