

Join the **ESA Columbus Essay Contest** and

# Win a trip to the **COLUMBUS LAUNCH** in Florida!

## ABOUT COLUMBUS

The Columbus laboratory is Europe's most important contribution to the International Space Station (ISS), which is the largest international project of all time. The ISS is permanently manned and regularly visited by European astronauts. Columbus will be launched and attached to the ISS at the end of 2007 and it will serve as a research facility in weightlessness for experiments and applications in life and physical sciences and for demonstrating new technologies. For more information about ESA, the ISS and Columbus, please visit: [www.esa.int/spaceflight](http://www.esa.int/spaceflight)

## WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO DO?

Write an essay about *YOUR* vision on the following topic:

**"THE VALUE OF HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT FOR EUROPEAN CITIZENS"**

The topic should be approached from *YOUR* perspective and may consider scientific, technological, social, economic, cultural aspects etc. The essay should not exceed 1000 words and must be submitted in English. Please use the essay template which can be downloaded from:

[www.esa.int/spaceflight/education](http://www.esa.int/spaceflight/education)

and send it to [ColumbusContest@esa.int](mailto:ColumbusContest@esa.int) marked 'Columbus essay'. If you have any questions concerning your essay please send them to the same address, indicating 'Question' in the subject line. The deadline for submitting the essay is 24 October 2007. ESA will announce the winner by 31 October 2007.

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The contest is open to university students up to Masters level or equivalent from ESA Member States\*. Note that students from all disciplines can join the contest!

## PRIZES

The 1<sup>st</sup> prize winner will go to the Columbus launch at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida (US) – subject to any delays\*\*.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> runners up will be invited to ESA ESTEC (Noordwijk, The Netherlands) to receive a certificate signed by the European astronauts participating in the Columbus mission.

\* Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom

\*\* The first prize cannot be transferred and no correspondence can be entered into concerning the final decisions of this contest

