



# The Clay Center Observatory and The IGNITE Foundation are proud to present **AN EVENING WITH EXPEDITION 14**



## **AN EVENING WITH EXPEDITION 14** **“Living and Working in Space”**

**Who:** [Astronaut Sunita Williams](#) of Needham, and [Mission Commander Michael Lopez-Alegria](#)

**What:** Meet the astronauts! Learn about space travel!

**When:** [Friday, September 14th](#), 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

**Where:** Clay Center Observatory at Dexter and Southfield Schools, 20 Newton Street, Brookline

**How:** Seating is limited. Reserve tickets on-line at [www.claycenter.org/astro](http://www.claycenter.org/astro). Free, public event.

*How do you eat dinner in space?*

*Which way is up in space?*

*Who lives on the International Space Station?*

*How did Suni run the Boston Marathon in space?*

*Meet the astronauts and find out the answers.*

**Suni Williams** graduated from Needham High School in 1983 and the U.S. Naval Academy in 1987. In 1998 she was selected to become an astronaut. She launched with the crew of STS-116 on December 9, 2006, and docked with the ISS on December 11, 2006, where she became a member of the Expedition 14 crew. During her 195 days aboard the ISS, Suni Williams established a world record for females with four spacewalks totaling 29 hours and 17 minutes. She also “ran” the Boston Marathon from space while orbiting Earth three times. She ended her ISS mission as a member of the Expedition 15 crew returning to Earth with the STS-117 crew on June 22, 2007.



**Michael Lopez-Alegria**, born in Spain, raised in Mission Viejo, California, is a 1980 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and a graduate of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He was selected as an astronaut in 1992 where he has served as NASA Director of Operations in Russia, ISS Crew Operations Branch, and



as technical assistant to JSC’s EVA Office. He has flown as mission specialist on three shuttle missions aboard Columbia (STS-73), Discovery (STS-92), and Endeavour (STS-113). He was then named to command Expedition 14, which was launched aboard a Russian Soyuz spacecraft in September of 2006 with mission duration of 215 days. A new American record was set.

**The IGNITE Foundation** is a national education enrichment organization that is based on the folktale “Stone Soup.” The essential concept of “Stone Soup” is to work collaboratively with existing materials (ingredients) that each group has already to generate something more ‘nutritious’ than each individual component. “We have found that by focusing on the strengths of each organization, and blending them with the strengths of others, we have been most successful.” IGNITE is an established 501(c)(3) organization created to develop collaborative, educational, enrichment initiatives. Its curriculum enrichment development has focused in the areas of math, science, and technology (engineering) based on the topic of space and has expanded to include the topics of weather and ocean science.



**The Clay Center Observatory**, operated by Dexter and Southfield Schools, is a state-of-the-art astronomical observatory and learning center. In addition to the observatory’s seven research-grade telescopes, this five-story building contains sophisticated computer and science laboratories, a multi-media lecture hall, classrooms, dining hall, meeting spaces, an amateur radio station, and a solar energy roof deck.

This event is made possible with generous support from the IGNITE Foundation, The Clay Center for Science and Technology, The Space Island Group, McGlynn, Clinton & Hall Insurance Agencies, and NASA.

*Astronaut Sunita L. Williams, Expedition 14 flight engineer, circled Earth almost three times as she participated in the Boston Marathon from space.*

