CITY OF OCEANSIDE

NEWS RELEASE

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OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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RACE TO THE MOON WITH AUTHOR FRANCIS FRENCH AT THE OCEANSIDE LIBRARY

The Oceanside Public Library is proud to host Francis French, acclaimed author and Director of Education at the San Diego Air & Space Museum, at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 7, 2013, in the Civic Center Library Foundation Room, located at 330 N. Coast Highway. In the 1960's, two superpowers were engaged in a titanic battle to land the first human on the moon. Why did America get there first? And why was Neil Armstrong chosen as the person to make that first step? In this talk, Francis French will take you through the colorful personalities and risky decisions that led up to the historic moment of the first moon landing.

Francis French is originally from Manchester, England, although he now lives and works in Southern California. He has been working for over a decade in the field of science education, particularly in making science and technology accessible and understandable to family audiences in informal learning settings such as museums. This has included positions at the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester, the San Bernardino County Museum, and the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center in San Diego, California. His work has included regular collaborations with NASA, retired astronauts, notable astronomers and astronomical observatories around the world, and a banner he designed was flown on the space shuttle Columbia's last successful mission. He is the former Director of Events with Sally Ride Science,

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working for America's first woman in space, and the current Director of Education at the San Diego Air & Space Museum. His most recent book, 2011's "Falling to Earth," is co-authored with Apollo 15 astronaut Al Worden, and made the top 12 of the LA Times Bestseller list.

This free event is sponsored by the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library. For more information, please visit the library's website at www.oceansidepubliclibrary.org or call (760) 435-5600.

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