# NASA'S ASTROMATERIALS COLLECTIONS

housed at the NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston, TX

The Astromaterials Research and Exploration Science Division at JSC is responsible for the curation of extraterrestrial samples from NASA's past, present and future sample return missions. These samples provide data that help scientists better understand the history and evolution of our Solar System. Our mission is to preserve, protect, and distribute samples for research by the present and future scientific community.

### LUNAR (1969)

382 kg of material collected during Apollo Missions; ~10 g of material from Soviet Union Luna Missions





### COSMIC DUST (1981)

>1000 particles from comets and asteroids collected in the Earth's stratosphere



# **GENESIS (2004)**

Solar wind atoms collected in wafers at Earth-Sun L1 point





Subset of regolith particles collected by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) from asteroid Itokawa



## **ANTARCTIC METEORITES (1978)**

>22,000 meteorites from asteroids, the Moon, Mars & Vesta



## **MICROPARTICLE IMPACTS (1985)**

~12 spacecraft components impacted by space debris and interplanetary dust



# STARDUST (2006)

Cometary dust (comet Wild 2) and interstellar dust particles collected in aerogel













*Future Collections…* Mars Sample Return and future sample return missions to other planets, moons, asteroids, and/or comets.



Astromaterials Research & Exploration Science (ARES) at the NASA Johnson Space Center (http://ares.jsc.nasa.gov)