

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KIRKLAND TRAVEL AGENCY OWNER SELECTED AS SPACE AGENT

“Fly me to the moon” is no longer a romantic notion, it’s a request that Angie Lepley, President of Kirkland-based ETI Travel will soon be hearing a lot. Lepley has recently been selected to be one of only 45 travel consultants in North America to be “Accredited Space Agents” by Virgin Galactic, a company that, in 2008, will begin offering the traveling public the opportunity to take a suborbital space flight.

Lepley, who is both entrepreneurial and adventurous, was a natural choice for selection. As the owner of ETI Travel, she has grown her organization so that it is now the largest independently owned travel agency in the State of Washington. Lepley is also an avid adventure travel enthusiast and runner. In fact, on a daily basis, she makes a point of jogging between her two offices located at opposite ends of Kirkland.

Lepley recently spent a week in Cape Canaveral, Florida, where she received Astronaut training, “G-force acclimatization” as well as the “how-to’s” of selling and marketing this unique product.

According to Lepley, “Travel is about making dreams come true and for many, especially the Baby Boomers, going to space is the ultimate dream-come-true. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime experience!”

Virgin Galactic, a company owned by the well-known entrepreneur and philanthropist, Richard Branson, is actually building its own spaceships for this program that will travel at over 3,000 miles per hour.

Virgin selected Lepley and ETI Travel because of its affiliation with Virtuoso, a leading organization in luxury travel. “We were specifically seeking agencies and agents for this program,” said Carolyn Wincer, Head of Astronaut Sales for Virgin Galactic, “that are exceptional in selling experiential travel and who have a roster of clientele with ideal candidates for space travel. ETI and Angie Lepley were a perfect fit!”

With the first flights launching in late 2008 at a cost of \$200,000 per ticket, ETI has already received numerous inquiries for the program and is now taking reservations for it.

ETI Travel is currently located at 1313 Market Street in Kirkland and can be reached at 425-822-2333. This summer, the company will move to new quarters located at 16017 Juanita Woodinville Way NE, Bothell, WA.