



THE HERMES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INSPIRED 24

"It's a special thing to be a human, and it's a special thing to be on planet Earth." -Reid Wiseman

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The Inspired Aquanauts

From July 16-21, 2026 two I24 members joined an underwater analog aquanaut mission at Jules Undersea Lab in Key Largo, FL. Brandy "Ripley" Nunez served as the mission HSO and Jenn "Jennway" Pint served as Mission Specialist for the SEA STAR research analog.

Joined by mission Commander Dr. Michaela Musilova, mission XO Paul Bakken, and mission Control Officer Cameron Crowell, their research included several experiments: human factors taxonomy, analog astronaut reaction times at depth, microgreens exposure to depressurization, and development of an underwater pressure transport system for equipment. Ripley also tested cortisol and reproductive hormones at depth, and Dr. Musilova performed conservation work in the Lagoon and completed student projects from her home country of Slovakia.

The mission was a huge success, and the crew worked very well together!





Member Spotlight!

Jason "North Star" Michoud



North Star was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario—the hometown of Roberta Bondar, Canada's first woman in space—and raised in Dubreuilville, a northern lumberjack village where endless dark skies made the stars feel ordinary. Yet life there was anything but easy. Before adulthood, North Star's family went bankrupt twice, losing everything at ages seven and sixteen.

Born with cleidocranial dysplasia and living with ADHD, North Star spent years hiding those differences after they became reasons for bullying and exclusion. Fear and self-doubt grew alongside a belief that the dreams held closest were impossible. Many insisted space was never meant for someone like North Star.

At 12 years old, North Star told his grandmother about two impossible dreams: walking among the stars and one day wearing a space suit in Antarctica. She never laughed. Instead, she promised a life filled with adventure and shared a lesson that would last forever: never become like those who hurt you, because that is how you lose yourself.

Years later, after building a successful career in technology, everything collapsed. Giving too much to others and never learning to say no led to losing nearly everything and falling into a deep depression. What ultimately saved North Star was not a carefully crafted plan, but a loyal friend who refused to let hope disappear and the realization that living authentically mattered more than meeting other people's expectations.



From that wreckage, Stardust was born in 2019, and he now serves as CEO, Founder & President. After all, what remains after an asteroid strikes is stardust—and, in many ways, so are we.

The years that followed brought heartbreaking loss. North Star's grandmother passed away in 2020, followed two years later by the stepfather who had lovingly adopted North Star and introduced the family to Anishinaabe culture. Despite becoming the strength others leaned on, North Star carried those lessons forward.

Since then, North Star has represented Canada at World Expos, addressed the United Nations, engaged with the White House National Space Council, and completed more than 80 parabolas of microgravity, lunar, and Martian flight while training toward becoming a private astronaut. Through collaborations with leading space organizations and the global reach of Stardust, hundreds of thousands of students have been encouraged to believe that the stars belong to them, too.

A father of two, North Star now sees the future through the eyes of those children. The greatest lesson came late: healthy boundaries are essential, and self-love is the foundation upon which everything else is built.

Today, Stardust represents the human side of space—bringing healing, authenticity, and hope into humanity's future. Supported by an extraordinary team and more than 250 ambassadors across 50 countries, North Star continues carrying one enduring promise: that one day, his beloved grandmother will be taken to the stars.





I24 Members on the Move

I24 at H2M2

The I24 participated in the Explore Mars: Humans to Moon & Mars (H2M2) Summit at Rice University on July 22–23. Our team hosted an exhibit highlighting our Spaceflight Training Program.

I24 President Andrew "Titan" Parris was joined by members Mario "Leo Prime" Espinosa and Nevin "Phronesis" Shah, who helped staff the exhibit and engage with summit participants.

Fellow members Jenni "Stargazer" Hesterman and Erika "Spectra" Rivera also stopped by to lend their support. Spectra tested her skills on the EVA training board. And Stargazer participated in the conference as a panelist in a discussion examining lessons learned from the World's Biggest Analog and how future analog missions can be designed to better support the next generation of lunar and Mars exploration.

The I24 gives much thanks to ExploreMars.org and co-founder, Chris Carberry for the support & hospitality.



More Space Camp Fun in Huntsville, AL



In July, several I24 members attended the annual Space Camp Alumni Reunion Weekend in Huntsville, AL, including Rosana "Zen" Sotile, Keith "Code" Yohn, Myah "Mogwai" D'Agostino, Austin "Mustang" Wilson, Zoe Savage, and Blue Origin Astronaut Dr. Eiman "Phoenix" Jahangir, who also participated on a Q&A panel during the weekend event.

Each year, Space Camp USA hosts a fun and engaging weekend to induct noteworthy alumni into the Space Camp Hall of Fame. The event is open to the public each year and usually includes an evening dinner celebration, tours of the museum, participation in the training equipment and simulators, and of course a lot of networking and making new friends.

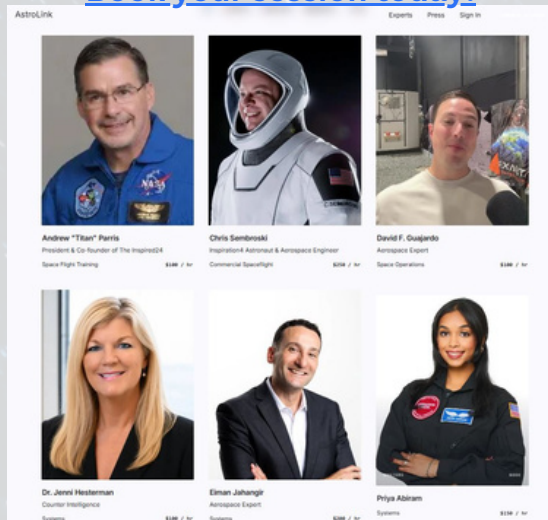
Next year's reunion weekend will be July 9-10, 2027. We hope many more I24 members can attend and support this special event. (You don't have to be an alumnus to attend!)



I24 News

There is still time to use your I24 discount on [Astro-Link](#)! Founded by three I24 members, this is THE virtual platform that will give you direct access to astronauts and aerospace leaders. Be among the first to book a 1:1 video call or mentoring session with [Astronaut Chris Sembroski](#), [Astronaut and I24 member Dr. Eiman Jahangir](#), [counter intelligence expert Col. Jenni Hesterman](#), [aerospace engineer Priya Abiram](#), [aerospace expert David Guajardo](#), and I24 President [Andrew “Titan” Parris!](#)

[Book your session today!](#)



Pre-order your copy of Dr. Eiman Jahangir's book, [A Heart for Space!](#) Official book release is Aug. 25, 2026

Part memoir, part guide; astronaut and cardiologist Dr. Eiman Jahangir invites readers into a journey shaped by war, rejection, loss, and an unshakable belief in possibility.

Affiliate News

Frank is Back!

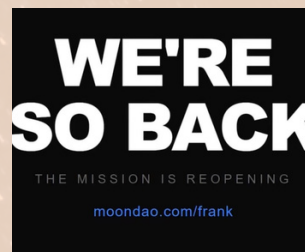
[MoonDAO](#) has raised enough money to send Frank White on a stratospheric balloon flight. And the campaign for a suborbital, or even orbital, flight is back on!

The fundraiser is very close to securing a second seat, and it could be YOU!

Donate to the campaign and cast your vote!

<http://moondao.com/overview>

*if you have issues donating or signing up to become a MoonDao Citizen, please reach out to Titan (titan@theinspired24.com) or Ryan (ryan@moondao.com).



MOONDAO



The next cohort of SpaceKind Training begins September, 23, 2026. It will be led by SpaceKind Founder, [Loretta Hidalgo Whitesides](#). This non-traditional learning course will invite you to open your heart, define your dreams, and share your life vision. You will use Loretta's book [The New Right Stuff](#) as a text book for exercises that help you navigate your own hero's journey and come out the other end ready to make your unique contribution to the cosmos. Virtual sessions will be held on Wednesdays 12:00 pm Pacific for 8 weeks. [Click HERE to register!](#)



[CLICK HERE FOR I24 MERCH!](#)



We now have I24 pins,
patches, name tags, &
engraved drinkware!



Get the latest I24 committee
updates and news!

[CLICK HERE to watch the replay of
July's All-Hands Meeting!!](#)

About The Inspired 24

"Inspired 2 Space 4 All"

We, The Inspired 24, are an inclusive group of like-minded, space positive people dedicated to promoting the access to space for all.

Our mission objectives are:

Network with organizations that support inclusive participation in space exploration.

Collaborate to create opportunities to experience the overview effect.

Train for space flights and provide space-ready individuals for future missions.

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NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH

(July 2026)

Julia Sharp
Evan Grant
Arjun Anand Trivedi
Josiah Afilleje

✦ Vismith Rakhecha
Amanda Galloway
Ruchi Singh
Bryce Scudder

Just for fun!

A development rover that is part of NASA's CADRE (Cooperative Autonomous Distributed Robotic Exploration) technology demonstration drives over a rock during its first autonomous drive around the Mars Yard at the agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California in June 2023.
Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech



NASA will send a trio of these miniature rovers to explore off-world. Where are they going?

- A. Mars Moon, Phobo
 - B. Earth's Moon
 - C. Near-Earth Astroid
 - D. Saturn's Moon, Titan
- (see below for answer)

Trivia answer: B. Earth's Moon
[Click HERE to learn more from JPL](#)