



# THE HERMES

## OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INSPIRED 24

*"It's hard not to be excited when you're going to find a way to land on the moon."* -Alan Bean

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### I24 Member Prepares for Antarctica

From December 2025 to January 2026, Mariam "Polar" Naseem will be on board the polar icebreaking vessel, *Le Commandant Charcot*, in the Weddell Sea, Antarctica. Supported through The Explorers Club and the Lewis & Clark Fieldwork Fund, the expedition will collect deep-ocean samples for analysis at NASA Goddard. As a Pakistani-Canadian scientist working at the intersection of planetary geology, emerging technologies, and global space outreach, Polar is also a PhD candidate at the University of Maryland College Park. She works with NASA Goddard to study geological processes on icy ocean worlds, such as Europa and Enceladus. Her team studies Antarctic seawater as an analog for the subsurface oceans of Jupiter and Saturn's moons - an effort that bridges oceanography, planetary science, and astrobiology, illustrating how Earth systems guide future space exploration. Her research ultimately connects Earth's extreme environments with the search for life beyond our planet.



Polar has already completed two Arctic field seasons on ice floes in the Beaufort Sea (characterizing ice structure and thickness using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)) and a sea-going expedition in the Norfolk Canyon in the Atlantic Ocean (collecting deep ocean water samples using a CTD-rosette), all of which trained her for the physical and technical demands of field research in extreme environments. After extensive logistics, international coordination, and scientific planning, she is now ready to step onto Earth's southernmost frontier to help advance spacecraft mission concepts for the future exploration of icy ocean worlds like Enceladus and Europa.

Beyond the science, Polar is a strong advocate for women and underrepresented communities in STEM and aerospace. She sees this expedition as a platform to inspire girls and students from developing space nations to imagine themselves in global research roles. As a Pakistani woman in planetary science, Polar is honored to carry the Pakistani flag to Antarctica later this month, contributing to greater representation in both polar science and space exploration.





## Member Spotlight!

### Jahnavi "Voyager" Dangeti



Like many of us, Voyager's interest in space began in childhood, long before she understood what is space science. She grew up listening to bedtime stories about the Moon, a kind lady who lived there, giving toys and chocolates to children like her. Those stories made Voyager believe the Moon followed her wherever she went, and somewhere in that imagination, her lifelong fascination with the cosmos was born.

As a child, Voyager didn't have direct access to space-related opportunities where she grew up, except for looking up at the night sky with endless curiosity. But that didn't stop her from exploring in her own way. She actively participated in science fairs, experiments, and STEM activities that helped her understand how things worked and fueled her fascination with exploration. Even without telescopes or advanced labs, Voyager's imagination became her first observatory.

Today, as a young adult, Voyager works as an Analog Astronaut and Scientist-Astronaut Candidate, participating in research and training missions that simulate space environments here on Earth. She has trained with international organizations, including the Analog Astronaut Training Center in Poland, Geospace Iceland, and the International Institute for Astronautical Sciences (IIAS) in Florida.

What inspires her the most is the idea that exploration connects everything - from the depths of our oceans to the vastness of space. Voyager's passion for diving and ocean conservation reminds her that understanding Earth is the first step toward exploring beyond it. She feels that both the sea and the cosmos teach humility, curiosity, and the importance of protecting our home planet as we look outward.

Voyager's strong technical foundation comes from her academic background in Electronics and Communication Engineering. Beyond that, she has undergone multiple international analog astronaut and aeronautics training programs, including those focused on EVA and IVA operations, space system design, leadership in mission environments, and crew psychology. She has also conducted research related to astrobiology, space sustainability, and future Mars analog environments.

Most noteworthy, Voyager is the first Indian to complete AEXAs International Air and Space Program (IASP) conducted at a NASA center. She also trained in Iceland during a Mars field simulation, collaborated with astronauts and scientists from multiple countries, and participated in Project PoSSUM at Florida Tech.

Beyond aeronautics, Voyager is also one of the youngest advanced certified scuba divers from India, with a deep passion for marine ecosystems and conservation. Diving has shaped how she understands human adaptation and survival in extreme environments, as it's the closest experience to floating in microgravity here on Earth. Voyager is also currently pursuing her student pilot license, and dedicating time to STEM outreach, mentoring students and encouraging young minds.

Voyager's ultimate dream is to contribute meaningfully to humanity's journey to Mars, not just as an astronaut, but as a researcher helping build the foundation for sustainable life beyond Earth. She aims to continue bridging her interests in analog missions, astrobiology, ocean science, and sustainable technology to support future off-world habitats. More than anything, she wants to inspire others, especially young girls, to believe that where you come from does not define where you can go. In her words: "Whether it's beneath the ocean surface or among the stars, exploration begins the moment you choose curiosity over fear."





## I24 Headlines

### *Introducing the New I24 Hub!*



We're excited to announce The Inspired 24 Community Hub – a dedicated space where our members can connect, collaborate, and stay informed without important conversations getting buried in endless message threads.

This new forum platform brings together everything from mission announcements and event coordination, to member spotlights and analog astronaut updates, all organized in easy-to-navigate categories that grow with our community.

Whether you're a forum veteran or first-timer, you'll find phpBB's intuitive interface makes it simple to jump into discussions, start new topics, or just browse what fellow members are sharing.

***Getting started takes less than two minutes using your pre-authorized email invitation.***

Didn't receive your invite or having registration issues?

Email [Ranger@theinspired24.com](mailto:Ranger@theinspired24.com)

Check it out!

<https://community.i24innovation.com>



## Member Outreach

- Eliza "Artemis" Maria is organizing [Space For Students](#), an educational initiative in Brussels on March 23, 2026 which will feature NASA astronaut Daniel Tani and TEDx speaker John Bates. The purpose of *Space for Students* is to inspire students by offering them direct access to accomplished professionals within the space sector. Artemis is seeking financial support to cover essential travel related expenses and logistical requirements. [Please consider supporting her endeavor by clicking HERE to donate!](#)

- I24 member Isabel Fernandes is launching a piece of collaborative content, "Project:Inspired!" and needs assistance by collecting videos of other members explaining the importance of The I24 and what it means to you. If you'd like to participate, please send a vertically shot video, 60 seconds or less, to: [icofgml@gmail.com](mailto:icofgml@gmail.com)

## Affiliate News

### *2026 Analog Astronaut Conference*

*April 30 - May 3, 2026*

*Biosphere 2, Arizona, USA*



- Early bird pricing for tickets [ends December 31, 2025!](#) Tickets include lodging & food. [Click HERE to register](#)
- Have something you'd like to share? No need to have a special background - all ideas and stories are welcome! [Click HERE to submit your abstract](#)
- Do you like teaching or sharing skills? Lead a workshop or activity at the AAC! You could:
  - Take people on a hike*
  - Lead a yoga class*
  - Run a team-building exercise*
  - Share a creative skill*
  - Teach something you're good at*[Click HERE to submit your workshop/activity idea](#)

Questions? Send an email to [Trade@theinspired24.com](mailto:Trade@theinspired24.com)



**Meet some of your new  
I24 crewmates!**

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



**They're here!**  
**Get your I24 shirts and  
hoodies on Amazon!**

## 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**

**(November 2025)**

Kelsie Goddard  
Yaman Akot  
Aurobi Das  
Julie Elvestad  
Shashank N Karabasamannahavar  
Mary Audrey Amorao  
Triloki Varshney

**Just for fun!**

### Space science trivia :

**What is the most volcanically active body in the solar system?**

- A. Earth
- B. Venus
- C. Jupiter's moon Io
- D. Saturn's moon Enceladus

(see below for answer)

### December in space history:

- Dec 14, 1962: Mariner 2 spacecraft reaches Venus after a 3.5 month journey
- Dec 21, 1968: Launch of Apollo 8, first crewed orbit of the moon
- Dec 29, 2000: Cassini-Huygens made its closest approach to Jupiter at a distance of 6.2 million miles
- Dec 1, 2013: China launched its first lunar landing mission, carrying the Yutu rover

Trivia answer: C. Jupiter's moon Io  
[Click HERE to learn more from JPL](#)