



THE HERMES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INSPIRED 24

"You can't get to space with zero risk. So where is that line?" -Anil Menon

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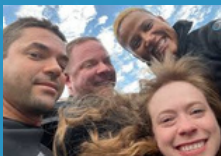
Space-versaries Aboard!



September 15, 2025 marked the four-year anniversary of Inspiration4, the world's first all-civilian mission to orbit. Launched from Kennedy Space Center, crewmembers Jared Isaacman, Dr. Sian Proctor, Hayley Arceneaux, and Chris Sembroski flew in honor of Leadership, Hope, Generosity, and Prosperity, proving that space exploration can belong to everyone.

It was during that launch that The Inspired 24 was formed by 24 very inspired contestants. While they gathered to witness history, they realized the power and force of their shared passion. The Inspired 24 was organized as a result of that passion shifting into a united mission.

To date, The Inspired 24 has over 250 members and continues to grow by turning differences into strengths, fostering a commitment to creating access 2 space 4 all.



I24 member Dr. Eiman "Phoenix" Jahangir celebrated his one-year anniversary of his space flight on Blue Origin's New Shepard-26 at the end of August.

Over the past year, Phoenix has spoken to over 1,000 students, traveled around the country to speak to businesses, was featured on CNN Prime Time, and trained in mission operations, research payloads, and astronaut training.

Most recently, Phoenix premiered his new documentary at the Adventure Science Center in Nashville, TN. Directed and produced by Jerome Moore, Phoenix's documentary tells the story of his journey to space and how he uses that experience to inspire children to always chase their dreams.

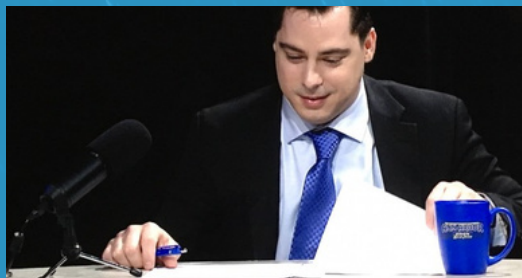
Phoenix's Blue Origin flight suit was also featured at the exhibit on September 20, 2025.





Member Spotlight!

Zach "Eagle" Damon



Eagle's connection to space exploration runs deep, not only through personal passion, but also through family. With relatives working at NASA, Eagle grew up surrounded by stories of innovation, discovery, and the relentless pursuit of knowledge. That environment, combined with the legacy of his grandfather, Ralph G. Damon, a World War II Army Air Corps pilot, ignited a lifelong fascination with aviation and the cosmos. From co-piloting a plane at age 13 to collecting shuttle mission patches and idolizing fellow Eagle Scout Neil Armstrong, Eagle's early experiences laid the foundation for his journey into space advocacy.

Today, Eagle is an award-winning actor, voice artist, and broadcaster, as well as the founder of Zach Damon Productions, LLC. His company produces compelling local television, radio, and web-based media content, often with a focus on inclusion and accessibility. A passionate advocate for disability rights since the early 1990s, Eagle uses his platform to amplify marginalized voices. His recent TEDx talk, "How Inclusion Increases the Bottom Line," explores how inclusive practices in media and business can drive innovation and profitability, while creating space for everyone to thrive.



Eagle's involvement with The Inspired 24 began after serving as a Ground Crew Member for AstroAccess Zero-G Mission Flight 2 in Houston, Texas. That experience solidified his commitment to the I24 mission of Inclusive Participation in Space Exploration. He has spoken at NASA Langley's EEE ERG and the Michigan BLISS Symposium, where he highlighted technologies designed to support astronauts with disabilities, proving that accessibility is not just a social imperative, but a technical frontier.

Looking ahead, Eagle dreams of broadcasting from the world's first entertainment arena and content studios in space. His goal is to ensure that space exploration reflects the full spectrum of humanity, and that no voice is left behind. Whether through media, advocacy, or his work with I24, Zach "Eagle" Damon continues to push boundaries and inspire others to reach for the stars.

Fun Fact: Diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy at six weeks old, Eagle has never let physical challenges define his limits. He's a Certified NRA Expert Marksman, Eagle Scout, outdoorsman, and a proud member of both the Michigan and Hollywood chapters of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. His love for film history and the arts adds yet another layer to his multifaceted journey.





I24 Headlines

Congratulations to Peter “Starman” Stefanik on his presentation in Bratislava, Slovakia, “Journey Beyond the Skies: Radio Contact with an Astronaut on the ISS”.

In conjunction with EUROPASS SLOVAKIA, he was able to share his inspiration for connecting aviation, space and technology. Starman is also a SERA astronaut competition contestant.



SERA (Space Engineering Research Agency) recently launched a competition to fly 6 civilians to space aboard Blue Origin's New Shepard.

The Inspired 24 members who are participating in the SERA competition have joined together on the Telegram App to assist each other with the contest.

We recognize the need for community, and so far, some of our members have a head start in the competition.

If you haven't yet joined the SERA astronaut contest, it's not too late! You can get started at www.sera.space/astronauts

And then message Titan on Telegram, [@AndrewTitanParris](https://t.me/AndrewTitanParris) to be added to the I24 group!

The I24 is co-hosting a **SPOOKY SPACE PARTY!**

Come meet your fellow I24 members in person on October 31, 2025 at the Sands Space History Center in Cape Canaveral, FL!

This is a networking event in conjunction with the Reinvented Space Gala (which is being held the following day), as well as, Give Her SPACE, and Space Happy Hour.

There will be guest speakers, a panel, a fireside chat, and light snacks & bar. It's a great opportunity to network with space industry professionals, insiders and influencers!

You must purchase a “Pre-Party” ticket through the Space Gala website [HERE](#)

WEAR A COSTUME IF YOU DARE!

Contact Lego for more info:
lego@theinspired24.com

I24 Analog Astronaut News

- Video Editors are wanted for the World's Biggest Analog Documentary film project! For more info, send an email to: AshleyWBAdocumentary@gmail.com
- NASA analog astronaut recruitment has begun for the 20-Foot Chamber Analog at Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX. I24 member Trent “Atlas” Tresch participated in a one-week test run earlier this year. [Get more info HERE](#)





I24 Innovation News

- Space Socks is an idea generated and being prototyped by Lucas “Stitch” Alderette to provide more protective footwear for ISS and future commercial space station astronauts who need foot-top cushioning for foot anchor rails and more anchoring options where no rails are installed.
- Nuclear Track Resin is an idea generated by Dr. David “Astrowex” Wexler to provide more cumulative and comprehensive radiation detection for astronauts. Planned experiments include high-altitude balloons and, eventually, testing on commercial and government space flights.
- MAIAccelerator, being developed by Innovation Operations Director Kent Nebergall is an AI-driven comprehensive dashboard and toolkit to help map the future of space exploration and development. It will also provide mentoring about skills and roles needed for space careers.

Curious to learn more?

The Inspired 24 Innovation Committee holds its virtual meeting immediately after the monthly All Hands Meeting.

Contact Ranger for more info!
ranger@theinspired24.com

I24 Member Outreach

STORIES of Space is back!

I24 member, Beth “Storyteller” Mund, has another fantastic opportunity for everyone!

This fall, the [STORIES of Space Non-Profit Organization](#) invites you to take part in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: sending stories about space... into space!

As Canadian Astronaut Chris Hadfield once said, “Spaceflight isn’t just about doing experiments, it’s about an extension of human culture.”

We believe stories are a vital part of that culture—and now, students, space enthusiasts, writers, and people from all over the globe have the chance to contribute directly to it.

Here’s how it works:

- From now until October 20, submit an original story, poem, or essay about space through our website—free of charge.
- All submissions will be downloaded onto micro-SD cards.
- Those cards will be launched into space aboard a sub-orbital flight with our partner, Maritime Launch Services, from Canada’s first commercial spaceport.

This activity is more than just a writing project—it’s a way to:

- Spark curiosity about science, technology, and exploration.
- Combat science illiteracy by engaging students in a creative, hands-on way.
- Give each participant a unique achievement to proudly share for years to come: “I sent my story to space.”

If you are an educator, or are sharing this opportunity with a teacher you know loves space and stories, we’ve created a comprehensive Educator’s Toolkit. This resource answers common questions about the mission, provides background on the rocket and launch details, and includes ready-to-use classroom activities. With the toolkit, you’ll have everything you need at your fingertips to fully engage students—not just in writing their stories, but in exploring the science, history, and future of spaceflight.

All people, of any age, from any place are invited to submit a story. This mission is especially meaningful as we celebrate the people and history of Canadian space exploration, including the enduring voices of the Indigenous peoples of Nova Scotia and across Canada. The window for submissions is short, and the mission is extraordinary.

☞ TO SUBMIT a story, visit <https://www.storiesofspace.com> BEFORE October 20!

☞ Download the Educator’s Toolkit here: <https://www.storiesofspace.com/submit-stories-mission-03/#toolkit>



Educator Opportunities

Solar System Ambassadors

The application period to become a Solar System Ambassador opens no earlier than late fall of 2025. Our criteria include demonstrated volunteerism, targeted geographic locations, and a background check.

Revisit this site at that time to complete the application or send us an email to be added to the interested party list.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY!](#)

Discovery Center Space Foundation

Space Foundation International Teacher Liaisons serve as a connection between Space Foundation and their schools and communities, often collaborating with other organizations such as NASA. Apply to be a liaison by Oct. 31st!

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY!](#)

Artemis II

Send your name around the Moon
[CLICK HERE!](#)

World Space Week Oct. 4-10

Free space lessons, activities, and videos.

[CLICK FOR MORE INFO!](#)

National Space Society

The Christa McAuliffe National Space Educator Award is designed to enhance and support educators to participate in NASA Educational Programs by honoring a teacher who has advised and helped guide students toward space careers through participation in space-related competitions and professional activities. [CLICK HERE!](#)



Affiliate News

- The Planetary Society and nearly a dozen partner organizations are holding a joint “Day of Action” on **October 5th & 6th** in Washington, D.C. in response to recent NASA science budget changes. If you can’t make the event, you can still pledge to take online actions. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)
- The Mars Society invites everyone with a passion for Mars and space exploration to take part in the 28th Annual International Mars Society Convention, **October 9–11** at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. The event is open to a global audience, with both in-person and virtual participation available. [CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#)
- New Worlds and The Space Cowboy Ball are back this year, **October 24 & 25**, in Houston, TX at Space Center Houston! [GET YOUR TICKETS AND HOTEL NOW!](#) It sells out quickly!
- Registration is now open for the National Space Society’s [Space Settlement Summit](#), the premier annual gathering of leaders shaping our future in space, **November 3 & 4**, in Orlando, FL. From Mars settlement strategies to the role of AI in autonomous exploration, this year’s theme is “Settling Mars: Humans, Robots & AI, Oh My!” The call for abstracts is still ongoing- [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & REGISTRATION.](#)



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

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

NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH (September 2025)


Fellipe Teixeira
Elliot DeOliveira
Gabriel Santos
Anushka Rathore
Miguel Plascencia
Martina Dimoska
Merciana Domingos
Alba Vasquez
Ankita Jauhari

Isabel Fernandes
Avid Roman-Gonzalez
Anderson daSilva
Narayana Komala
Anna Xyghou
Thaiza Gomes dos
Santos Cruz

Members with new call signs:

Ananda “Biosentinel” Padmanabhan Dileep
“Elliot” Briant De Oliveira
Anushka “Infinity” Rathore



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

“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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