



HIGH SCHOOL AEROSPACE SCHOLARS



Texas high school juniors, join NASA as we explore the Moon to Mars!

August 2024 NEWSLETTER

25th Anniversary Celebration and Residential Experience

This summer, High School Aerospace Scholars (HAS) celebrated 25 years of continuously engaging Texas high schoolers with NASA's missions. 51 high-achieving scholars visited NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, for a residential experience from Sunday, July 28, through Friday, August 2, to explore astronaut training, tour unique facilities, and meet HAS alumni and mentors. On Monday, July 29, NASA leadership hosted a celebration of the 25 years of work and collaboration to make HAS a long-standing success. During the celebration and throughout the week, scholars presented their Moonshot work, met NASA professionals in a variety of fields, and worked together on engineering design challenges.

See more photos of the 25th anniversary celebration and onsite activities [here](#).



By the Numbers

- 358 scholars completed the Moonshot virtual experience
- 51 scholars attended the residential experience
- 200+ students, mentors, stakeholders, and alumni attended the 25th Anniversary Celebration
- 14,400+ student applicants since 1999
- 6,877 students completed summer experience since 1999
- 480 certified Texas teacher mentors since 1999

Upcoming Events

August 26 — 2024-2025 HAS Online course, Senior Mentor course, Technical Reviewer and Design Challenge Facilitator applications open on NASA STEM Gateway

September 18 and 26, October 1 and 5 — Information sessions for high school juniors

October 15 — Senior Mentor course orientation

October 16 — Technical Reviewer and Design Challenge Facilitator Orientation and Senior Mentor course begins

October 22 and 24 — HAS Online course orientations

October 28 — HAS Online course begins

August - March — Recruitment for Design Challenge Facilitators

Texas High School Aerospace Scholars is an authentic STEM learning experience for Texas high school juniors to engage with NASA's missions and become the next generation of explorers.

Learn more at nasa.gov/has or email the team at jsc-has@mail.nasa.gov.





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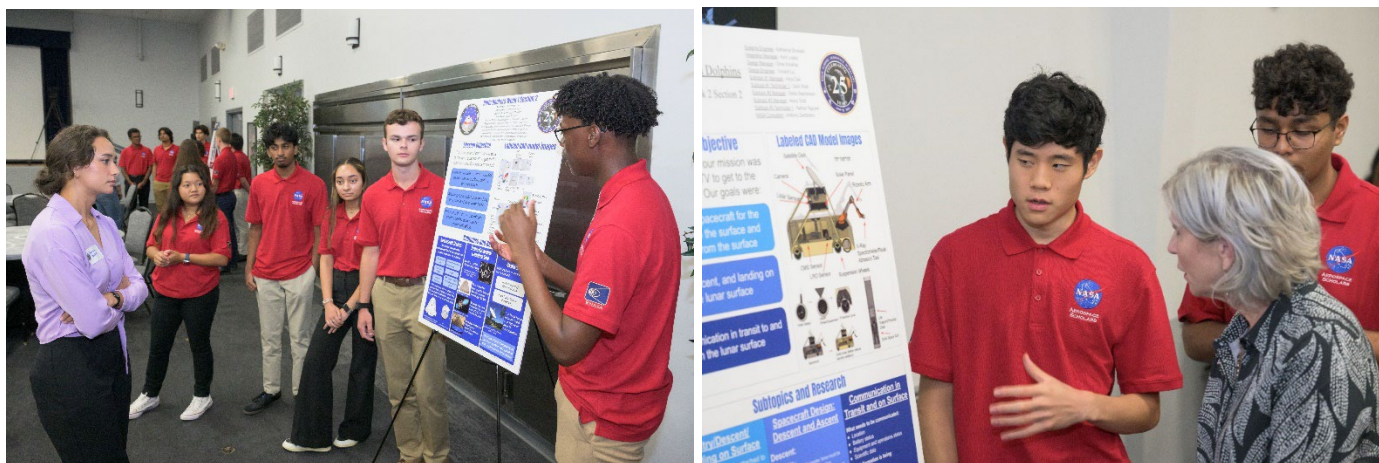
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Moonshot

Moonshot is a five-day virtual summer experience for scholars who successfully completed the online course during the school year. Grouped in teams, scholars worked together to design a component of a lunar mission, including landers, rovers, or habitation outposts. Moonshot's goals and processes are designed to mimic how NASA works on Artemis and Moon to Mars missions. At the end of the week, scholars submitted their presentation for judging by NASA experts. NASA invited the top six teams to the residential experience at Johnson Space Center.

Watch the [Moonshot closing ceremony here](#).



In Partnership

During Moonshot, our partners at Texas A&M joined us virtually to share how students can pursue different paths to obtain a major in engineering as well as opportunities to get involved with the college. Each week, Anna Gutierrez, Associate Director of Texas A&M Engineering Academies, shared information on the benefits and application process for students to begin their career as an Aggie at a local community college while still receiving instruction from Texas A&M engineering professors. Students who pursue this option can save money by living closer to home for two years before transitioning to Texas A&M's main campus in College Station, Texas.

Additionally, Pam Simmons-Brooks, Program Manager with Texas A&M's Spark! K-12 Outreach, presented a variety of opportunities for Moonshot students to connect with the university. These included the Texas Science and Engineering Fair, Aggies Invent, and a variety of local student engagements across the state of Texas.

Looking back on 25 years, we are grateful for all our partners who have helped make HAS a success. Thank you for your continued support!

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As we close out our 2023-2024 cycle of HAS, we thank our partners from the past year and look ahead to the next 25 years of HAS.



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