



NASA Shares Personal Science Stories from A to Z

2018

Doug Archer NASA Johnson Space Center <i>"Me and million other kids wanted to be an astronaut."</i>	Jacob Bleacher NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"We all have that dream of being the person who walks across plains on Mars."</i>	Carmen Boening NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory <i>"We weigh the ocean and then you can see how much water there is or less water."</i>	John Bolten NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"It's all about getting the information into the hands of local stakeholders."</i>	Paula Bontempi NASA Headquarters <i>"It's not just about the ocean, it's about the intersection of the ocean with other earth systems."</i>	Dwayne Brown NASA Headquarters <i>"There would not be life without geosciences."</i>	Laurie Cantillo NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory <i>"It never occurred to me to work in science communication"</i>	Sandra Cauffman NASA Headquarters <i>"We're constantly inventing new ways to use our data for societal benefits."</i>	Steve Clarke NASA Headquarters <i>"We have to learn to live off of the planet—we can't take everything with us."</i>	David Crisp NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory <i>"If I can be welcomed in this group, doing this work, maybe they can too."</i>
Brian Day NASA Solar System Exploration Virtual Institute <i>"When something changes your understanding, that's why you go into this field."</i>	Bradley Doorn NASA Headquarters <i>"What gets my juices flowing is connecting the science to an actual mission."</i>	Anne Douglass NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"We need to figure out how to best manage the planet for all who live here."</i>	Richard Eckman NASA Headquarters <i>"For me growing up in the 60s & being a real NASA fan, working for NASA was just a really fulfilling thing."</i>	Kristen Erickson NASA Headquarters <i>"Celestial events are always a winner."</i>	James Famiglietti NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory <i>"Communication is our responsibility."</i>	Nicola Fox NASA Headquarters <i>"Starting Out in Science Before Your First Birthday."</i>	Michael Freilich NASA Headquarters <i>"I joined an Oceanography club & actually asked the question that ended up [being] my thesis."</i>	Lawrence Friedl NASA Headquarters <i>"Well, why weren't you here before?"</i>	Lori Glaze NASA Headquarters <i>"Volcanoes are where we're making new earth, every day."</i>
James Green NASA Headquarters <i>"We're moving through a period of understanding [other] planets & how they relate to life on Earth."</i>	Christopher Hain NASA Marshall Space Flight Center <i>"I want to change the world with what we do, not do it for myself."</i>	John Haynes NASA Headquarters <i>"I wanted to know—how did these monsters form?"</i>	George Huffman NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"I learned from watching tv that you could make a living working with weather and how cool is that?"</i>	James Irons NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"AGU is interdisciplinary, [it] helps breaks down the disciplinary stovepipe we often get into."</i>	Daniel Irwin NASA Marshall Space Flight Center <i>"For really big problems we use really creative solutions."</i>	Gail Skofronick-Jackson NASA Headquarters <i>"As soon as it [snow] lands, it starts to metamorphosize"</i>	Kenneth Jucks NASA Headquarters <i>"[The Montreal Protocol] is one of the few areas where the international community really came together."</i>	Jack Kaye NASA Headquarters <i>"I got a little periodic table wallet card. So, I really am a card-carrying chemist."</i>	Dalia Kirschbaum NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"With satellite data, you can help people understand how the disaster happen in their backyard."</i>
Nathan Kurtz NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"I ask a question that can connect what I'm doing with research in the past or planned for the future."</i>	David Lagomasino NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"The moment that put me on this path was an intro to Geology course."</i>	Tim Lang NASA Marshall Space Flight Center <i>"You need to get into the storm, install it close enough to the lightning, and then run back to the car."</i>	Joseph Lazio NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory <i>"We all stand on each other shoulders to make the next discovery."</i>	Ashutosh Limaye NASA Marshall Space Flight Center <i>"[Better satellite monitoring] will improve our ability to bridge the gaps between the haves & have nots."</i>	Norman Loeb NASA Langley Research Center <i>"The measurements are telling us a critical component of climate change."</i>	Rosalyn Lopes NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory <i>"If you want to do something, don't let anyone put limitations on you."</i>	Hal Maring NASA Headquarters <i>"You can make the claim that airborne transport of dust gives us rum."</i>	Chuck McClain NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"The 6 Mentors You Meet in Life"</i>	Linette McPartland NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"There are no dumb questions, be confident and know that you are the expert in your field."</i>
Michael Meyer NASA Headquarters <i>"Apollo 11... That's when I said, I don't have to be a business, I don't have to go into the military."</i>	Paul Newman NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"When I was young, I always wanted to play pro baseball, soccer, or basketball"</i>	Conor Nixon NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"Titan is a natural laboratory in synthesis of organic chemicals."</i>	Luke Oman NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"The atmosphere is one of the most complex processes in nature."</i>	Glenn Orton NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory <i>"Points that fall off the curve are either a mistake or the Nobel Prize."</i>	Claire Parkinson NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"I am satisfied by simply being able to help out in whatever way I can."</i>	Steve Pawson NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"You can't keep redoing your Ph.D. Really, to be successful, I think you have to change."</i>	Steve Platnick NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"We are on a planet that is changing."</i>	William Putman NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"When I was young I always knew I wanted to be a meteorologist."</i>	Elizabeth Rampe NASA Johnson Space Center <i>"We as humans have just this innate desire to explore."</i>
Miguel Román Universities Space Research Association <i>"We were seeing Christmas lights from space, and seeing people praying on Mount Arafat during the Hajj."</i>	Steve Running University of Montana <i>"We have a big mess to clean up. There's no other way to say it."</i>	Sabrina Savage NASA Marshall Space Flight Center <i>"The sun is a terrifying and beautiful laboratory of which we know only a little [about]."</i>	Emily Schaller NASA Ames Research Center <i>"My greatest contribution is the students that come through my program."</i>	Christopher Shuman NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"Glaciers are the interface between land, atmosphere, and ocean."</i>	Paul Stackhouse NASA Langley Research Center <i>"There were are two paths, figure out how things work or figure out to forecast things."</i>	Amber Soja NASA Langley Research Center <i>"If we're not taking action then we're part of the problem."</i>	John Sonntag NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"Bridging the Divide with Operation IceBridge."</i>	Robert Swap NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"What other profession allows you to ask questions, chase those things that give you intellectual itches."</i>	Patrick Taylor NASA Langley Research Center <i>"Something I learn today is something that [could help] society tomorrow."</i>
Michelle Thaller NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"I've been a professional astronomer for over 20 years, [and it] still gives me goosebumps."</i>	Andi Brinn Thomas NASA Johnson Space Center <i>"You are so far up in space, that the Earth, the cities and the landscape all kinda of blends."</i>	Charles Trepte NASA Langley Research Center <i>"Particles from the Volcano in the Philippines had made their way all the way to Wisconsin."</i>	Compton Tucker NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"I've always been really curious at solving problems, and I like puzzles."</i>	Woody Turner NASA Headquarters <i>"Tracking whales from space."</i>	Thomas Wagner NASA Headquarters <i>"One of the most important things that we can do as earth scientists is help society plan for change."</i>	Jeremy Werdell NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"We can watch twenty minutes of the earth 'breathing,' in two minutes"</i>	Bruce Wielicki NASA Langley Research Center <i>"The best way to get ahead is to plant seeds of ideas in other people and watch them take off and run with it."</i>	Alex Young NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"Technology continues to expand so quickly & change so dramatically, we don't actually know the true impacts."</i>	David Young NASA Langley Research Center <i>"When we met, it was a Reese's Peanut Butter moment, we had the peanut butter & he had the chocolate."</i>

2019

Mehdi Benna NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"Every project we work on, we count them by decades. That delays the rewards."</i>	Dana Bolles NASA Headquarters <i>"I love the fact that we're serving the public."</i>	Brian Cairns NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies <i>"We can always do something and we should always do what we can when we can."</i>	Brian Campbell NASA Wallops Flight Facility <i>"A lot of teachers that I had as a child they inspired me and I was like man, I really like what they do."</i>	Ved Chirayath NASA Ames Research Center <i>"It's really amazing how difficult it is to study something like the ocean."</i>	Riley Duren NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory <i>"The journey and who you're taking the journey with matters as much as the destination."</i>	James Garvin NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"There is humor and wonderment in all these great people."</i>	Shobhana Gupta NASA Headquarters <i>"If you want something bad enough, you can work hard and get it or you can at least try."</i>	Donald Gurnett University of Iowa Physics and Astronomy <i>"It was really such a unique experience that I just don't think can happen today."</i>	Kayla Iacovino NASA Johnson Space Center <i>"These are really big questions that right now no one could really answer."</i>
Justin Kasper Space Sciences at the University of Michigan <i>"As a human being, you shouldn't let the individual days go by without appreciating them."</i>	Michael King University of Colorado Laboratory for Atmospheric Sciences <i>"I just kept learning more things or finding a niche."</i>	Eric Lindstrom NASA Headquarters, retired <i>"Most of these happenings have been because technology became available that could realize the vision."</i>	Russanne Low Institute for Global Environmental Strategies <i>"The opportunity to be part of this team to build something was really quite compelling."</i>	Paul Mahaffy NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"It's just amazing to go to a new place in the solar system and discover someplace new."</i>	Mamta Nagaraja NASA Headquarters <i>"I love where life has taken me."</i>	Thomas Zurbuchen NASA Headquarters <i>"The moment when you run over the finish line as a teams one that you'll never forget in your life"</i>			
Cynthia Rosenzweig NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies <i>"We're going to be able to help the planet."</i>	Lindy Elkins-Tanton Arizona State University <i>"It's so fun and such a privilege to be part of this team and see what people can do together"</i>	Nicholeen Viall NASA Goddard Space Flight Center <i>"The sun kind of affects everything here on Earth in one way or another."</i>	Joseph Westlake John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab <i>"The way that space physics, and space instrumentation, and things like that works is very old school."</i>	Amy Winebarger NASA Marshall Space Flight Center <i>"You have to believe in yourself and your project more than anybody else, and you have to sell it."</i>	Xubin Zeng University of Arizona for atmospheric science <i>"Even today I'm still amazed at the power of the simple mathematics and it has benefited my whole career."</i>				

The AGU Centennial Narratives Project is an opportunity for individuals to share their personal Earth and space science stories.

To search the narratives archive, visit: archive.storycorps.org and search keyword **NASA** Or, visit: <https://centennial.agu.org/earth-space-science-history/agu-narratives-library>

NASA was honored to be part of such a tremendous effort to amplify the accomplishments of science over the last 100 years.