

MAR 2025

NESSP NEWS

Official Newsletter of Northwest Space and Science Pathways



IMPORTANT DATES

- Mar 15 Montana Aerospace Scholars
- Mar 17 Artemis ROADS III Challenge Checkpoint 2
- Mar 26 NASA Expert Talk

Mar 15, 2025 Montana Aerospace Scholars application close

This NASA-inspired program is designed for motivated high school students who want to explore aerospace, engineering, and planetary science while gaining college credit and real-world experience.

Open to all students. Montana students will receive priority registrations.

Engage in NASA-Inspired Missions – Tackle real-world aerospace challenges just like NASA engineers and scientists.

Exclusive Opportunities – Stand out with VIP field experiences, potential NASA internships, and college scholarships to launch a future in STEM.

Apply Now! Learn more and apply today:
<https://montanalearning.org/apollo50/>

APPLY!

- Gain Exposure to the Aerospace Industry in Montana and Beyond
- Engage in Exciting Hands-on Science and Engineering Activities

Applications due 3/15

Learn more and apply at
[MontanaLearning.org/Apollo50](https://montanalearning.org/Apollo50)

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Mission Patches are Featured
on our Social Media!

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Bennett

Artemis ROADS III
Checkpoint 2 Deadline

Sunita L. Williams NASA
Astronaut & US Navy
Captain

Nicole A. Mann
NASA Astronaut & US
Marine Corps Colonel

Summer Mini-Mission
are Coming!



SUNITA L. WILLIAMS

NASA ASTRONAUT AND U.S. NAVY CAPTAIN, RET.

Sunita (Suni) L. Williams launched aboard Boeing’s Starliner spacecraft on June 5, 2025 for its first crewed flight, arriving at the space station on June 6. She is currently living and working aboard the space station along with Butch Wilmore as a part of the Expedition 71/72 crew and will later return home aboard the Space X Dragon spacecraft. Suni was born on September 19, 1965 in Euclid Ohio. She graduated from Needham high school in 1983.



She furthered her education by obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Physical Science, and then a Master of Science in Engineering Management. Suni was selected to be an astronaut in 1998 and is a veteran of two space missions, Expeditions 14/15 and 32/33. Suni worked in Moscow with the Russian Space Agency on Russian contributions to the space station and with the first Expedition Crew. As a NEEMO2 crew member, she lived underwater in the Aquarius habitat for 9 days. After her first flight she served as Deputy Chief of the Astronaut office. She has been awarded several awards such as, DSSM (2), Legion of Merit, Navy Commendation Medal (2), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal and various other service awards.

NICOLE A. MANN

NASA ASTRONAUT AND U.S. MARINE CORPS COLONEL

Nicole A. Mann launched aboard NASA’s SpaceX Crew-7 mission on August 25, 2023, for her first crewed flight to the International Space Station (ISS), arriving on August 26. She is currently aboard the ISS as part of Expedition 69/70 and will return home aboard the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft. Born on June 27, 1977, in Petaluma, California, Nicole graduated from Casa Grande High School in 1995.



She furthered her education by obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, followed by a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University. She was selected as a NASA astronaut in 2013 and became the first Native American woman to fly in space. Before joining NASA, Nicole served as a U.S. Marine Corps officer and test pilot, accumulating over 2,500 flight hours. She has been involved in various space missions and research projects, making significant contributions to space exploration. Nicole has received numerous honors, including the Defense Superior Service Medal and Meritorious Service Medal. She continues to inspire future generations of explorers and engineers through her achievements in space.

NASA EXPERT TALK MAR 26, 2025 4 PM PACIFIC

Dr. Caitlin Ahrens, Planetary Scientist

Zoom link: nwebsp.org/events-and-announcements

We’re Getting Ready to Go Back to the Moon! – The Artemis Adventures

We will explore the exciting advancements in Moon exploration and the preparations underway for humanity's return to the lunar surface. It will highlight the critical importance of testing instruments on Earth and lunar orbit with Artemis II before sending them to the Moon’s surface, ensuring safety in such a challenging environment. Additionally, we will discuss why returning to the Moon is crucial for scientific discovery and technological innovation!

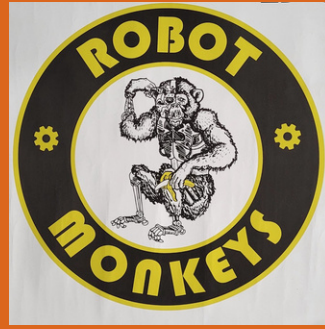


ARTEMIS ROADS III MISSION PATCHES FEATURED ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

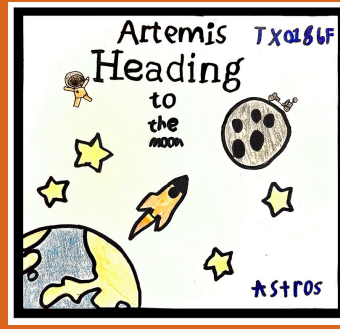
Have you checked out all the great mission patches that have been submitted? New patches are added daily!



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CAMPBELL FARM DIONNA BENNETT

Located in Wapato, Washington on the Yakama Reservation, Campbell Farm is a non-profit that combines culture, science, and mentorship to provide educational opportunities for students. Through its dual partnership with UW Riverways and Northwest Earth and Space Sciences Pathways (NESSP), Campbell Farm offers a unique, holistic learning environment, particularly for middle school students. Dionna Bennett-Pimms, the Executive Director, shared her insights on the Farm's impact, its challenges, and its future.

Dionna's journey to Campbell Farm stems from her passion for helping students and her background in social work. Initially a special education teacher, Dionna became disillusioned with the traditional education system and sought an alternative where she could make a meaningful difference. As Executive Director, she oversees programs that focus on providing students with both academic and personal growth opportunities. Currently, the Farm serves 15 middle school students, primarily sixth graders, to ensure they can fully engage without the distraction of extracurricular sports.

What sets Campbell Farm apart is its integration of science with indigenous culture. Located on the Yakama Reservation, the Farm offers students modern scientific education while also immersing them in their cultural heritage. "Being on the Yakama Reservation allows us to bridge multiple cultures and connect science with tradition," Dionna explained. This blend creates a comprehensive educational experience that honors both academic learning and cultural identity.

A standout feature at Campbell Farm is its mentorship program, where former students return to mentor current participants. Many former students are now attending universities like the University of Washington (UW), and their return to the Farm helps inspire the next generation. "It brings me so much happiness when students come back as mentors or get excited about going to UW," Dionna said. These mentorship relationships help students set academic goals and see the rewards of their hard work.

Despite its successes, Campbell Farm faces challenges typical of rural non-profits, such as limited access to technology and logistical issues like transportation. The rural location means reliable internet and technological resources are often scarce, hindering the Farm's ability to provide all modern educational tools. Additionally, the Farm is currently down a vehicle, which affects transportation for students and staff. Nevertheless, Dionna and her team remain committed to overcoming these obstacles to continue serving the community.

Dionna is hopeful for the future of Campbell Farm, aiming for growth and greater access to students. "I hope in five years we'll be a stronger non-profit and able to reach more students," she shared. As the Farm grows, its goal is to expand its impact, offering more opportunities for local students to thrive academically and personally.

At its heart, Campbell Farm is about more than just academics. It's about fostering community, cultural pride, and providing opportunities for success. With the support of partners like NESSP and UW Riverways, Campbell Farm ensures that students not only excel academically but also build lasting connections within a supportive network. Dionna's hope is that more students will discover this transformative program and benefit from its unique offerings. "The more people that learn about what we do, the more we can help these kids," Dionna concluded.

MAR 17, 2025 ARTEMIS ROADS III CHALLENGE CHECKPOINT 2

Checkpoint 2: Mission Progress Update is **required** for all teams and is due via upload by Mar 17, 2025, on your ROADS Educator Account.

Checkpoint 2 is required whether or not your team can or plans to attend an in-person event. By submitting Checkpoint 2 you are verifying your team is still active.

Teams **attending** an in-person event: Complete steps 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5

Teams **not** attending an in-person event: Complete steps 1 & 5

Checkpoint 2 steps

1. Preview the form and learn more about in-person hub events:

- a. Artemis ROADS III Checkpoint 2 Submission Form Preview
- b. Mission Advisor Support Session 2 presentation slides
- c. Mission Advisor Support Session 2 video recording

2. Gather Team Information:

- a. Whether your team can attend an event
- b. Who can attend the event
- c. Attendees preferred names
- d. Attendees dietary needs
- e. Attendees ADA requirements

3. List Additional Adult Chaperones

Mission Advisors with more than one student team should be prepared to provide information for additional adult chaperones, including:

1. Full name
2. Email
3. Phone number
4. Gender
5. Dietary needs
6. ADA requirements

4) Travel Support

1. Determine whether your team would like to be considered for travel support, including mileage reimbursement and/or overnight accommodations.
2. Review the Mission Advisor Support Session 2 presentation slides or video for travel support information and details

5) Prepare and upload each team's Mission Development Log (MDL)

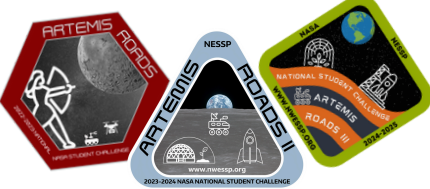
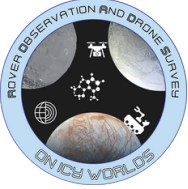
Convert each team's initial or in-progress MDL to a PDF file. The MDL should:

1. Show progress on at least 3 different additional Mission Objectives (MOs) beyond MO-1 & MO-2 to demonstrate readiness for presenting at the in-person event.
2. Be smaller than 10 MB.
3. You can reduce the file size by removing extra slides or unnecessary images.

SUMMER 2025 MINI-MISSION ARE COMING!

NESSP Mini-missions are summer experiences led by local educators and community members. NESSP provides suggested activities, supplies, training/support, and instructor stipends. Instructors make the schedule, find a place to host, and recruit students. This summer NESSP offers two Mini-Missions Artemis ROADS and ROADS on Icy Worlds.

Information Sessions and more details coming soon!

Mini Mission	Artemis ROADS	ROADS on Icy Worlds
Program		
Grades	3 - 12	3 - 12
Recommended length	5 Days	5 Days
Description	<p>Inspired by NESSP's three Artemis ROADS national challenges.</p> <p>Students will explore NASA's Artemis missions, by completing hands-on activities and tasks designed to enhance their STEM skills and understanding of space exploration.</p>	<p>Hands-on activities designed to simulate a rover mission to an icy world like Europa.</p> <p>Students will engage in a mix of science and engineering challenges, working through hands-on activities that mirror real-world mission planning and exploration.</p>