



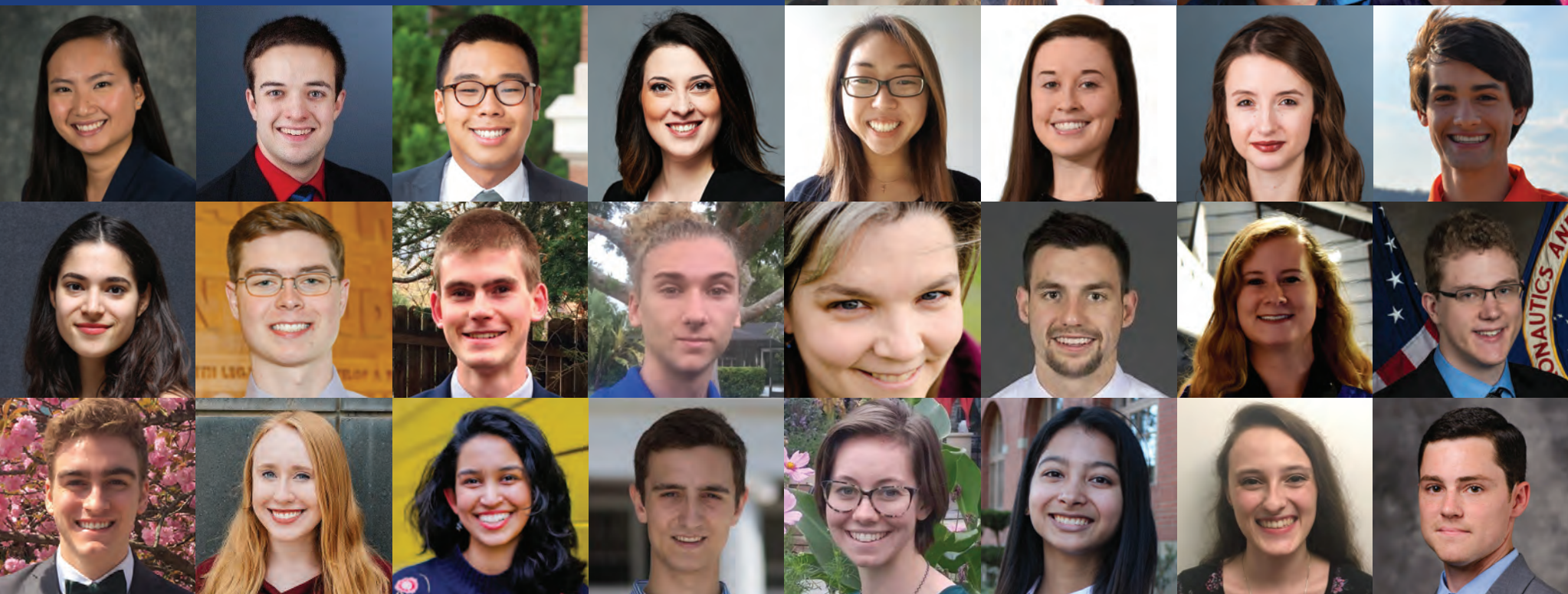
2018 ANNUAL REPORT

ASTRONAUT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION





ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS
INNOVATORS OF TOMORROW



CLASS OF

2018



*Faces
that are
going
places...*



ASTRONAUT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION ABOUT

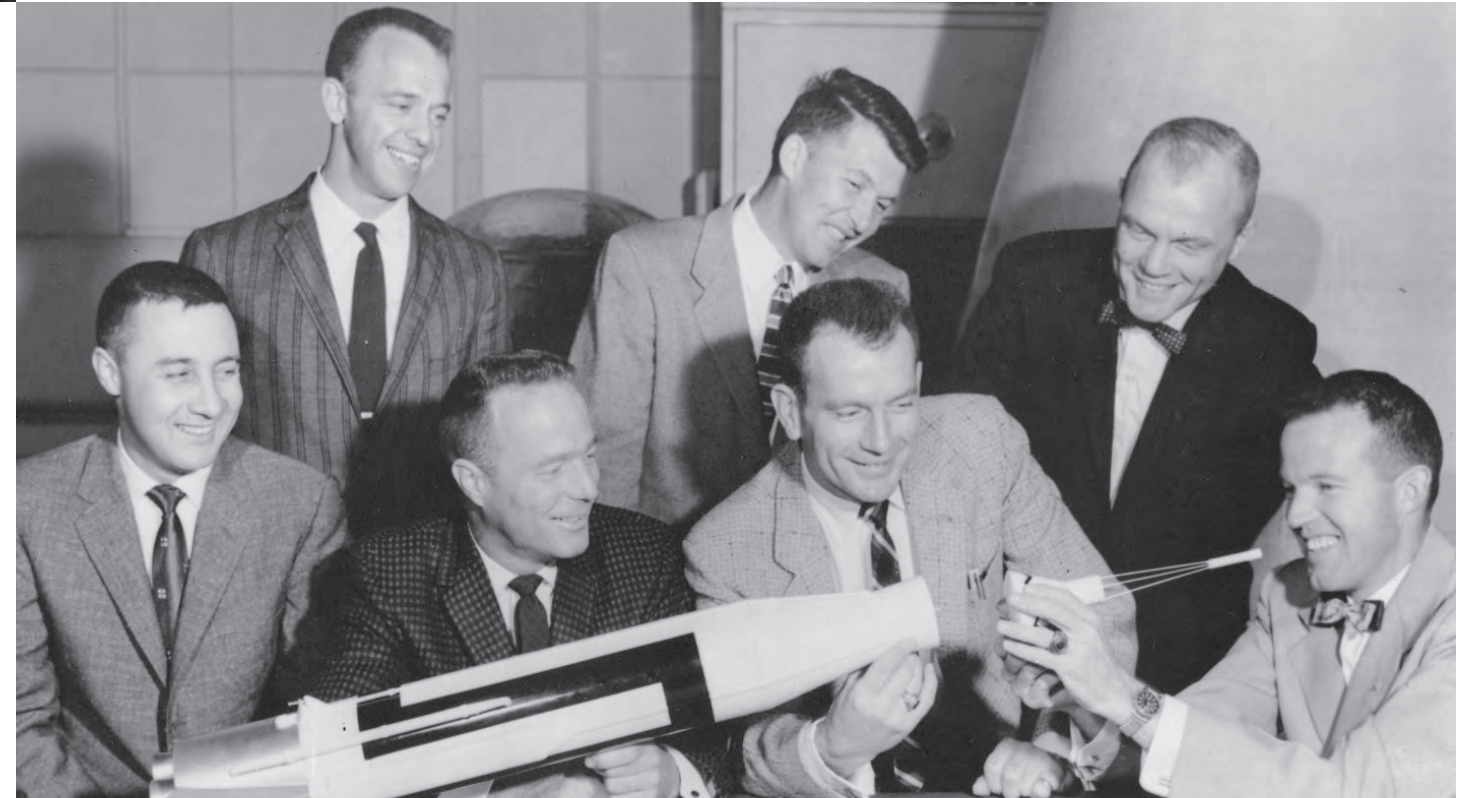
The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides scholarships annually to the brightest and most talented college students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



HISTORY OF ASF

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) was created in 1984 by: the six surviving Mercury 7 astronauts (Scott Carpenter, Gordon Cooper, John Glenn, Walter Schirra, Alan Shepard and Deke Slayton); Betty Grissom (widow of the seventh astronaut, Virgil “Gus” Grissom); William Douglas, M.D. (The Project Mercury flight surgeon); and Henri Landwirth (Orlando businessman and friend). Together they represented a wealth of collective influence, which was particularly suited to encouraging university students pursuing scientific excellence. Their mission was to ensure the United States would be the global leader in technology for decades to come.

Since that time, astronauts from the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Skylab, Space Shuttle and ISS programs have also embraced this noble mission. ASF partners with industry leaders, universities, and individual donors to reward the best and brightest university students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) with substantial scholarships. The prestigious Astronaut Scholarship is known nationwide for being among the largest merit-based monetary scholarships awarded to undergraduate STEM juniors and seniors. ASF has a life-long relationship with each Astronaut Scholar and provides them with mentors, professional and personal development, and networking with astronauts, C-suite level executives, and industry leaders to help advance their careers.



ASF | Created by the Mercury 7 Astronauts

MISSION

To aid the United States in retaining its world leadership in technology and innovation by supporting the very best and brightest scholars in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics while commemorating the legacy of America’s pioneering astronauts.

VISION

ASF seeks to inspire, encourage, and facilitate Astronaut Scholars to embody the highly respected astronaut characteristics, such as intelligence, ambition, self-motivation, high ethical standards, persistence, tenacity, adaptability, and a passion for science, exploration, and innovation. This focus will aid in placing the best American scholars in positions that will positively change and influence society.



CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD MESSAGE

This year, the United States celebrates 50 years of the early space program. It was not an easy feat. *Science, technology, engineering and mathematics* were critical components needed by the more than 400,000 men and women who made the greatest achievement of humankind a possibility. As President John F. Kennedy so passionately expressed, “We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard.”

At the Foundation, we are thrilled with our new programs and the advances we are making to ensure we provide every Astronaut Scholar with the best opportunities and connections available to propel their professional careers to greater heights than otherwise realized. Through the *On the Shoulders of Giants* campaign and the surcharges from the *Apollo 11 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin*, we are confident that ASF will continue to have a significant impact on the lives of Astronaut Scholars who are in turn making an impact on the world.

The advancements developed for the space program have been benefitting society for years; enhancing our everyday lives. As we look at the future and what will be achieved during the next 50 years in space, healthcare, energy and technology, we have no doubt our *Astronaut Scholars will be leading those efforts*. These scholars follow in the footsteps of astronauts...they are intellectually daring, creative risk-takers who seek to break the “normal” constraints and push scientific boundaries.

To our supporters, who made this a record-breaking fundraising year, *thank you for your unwavering support*. We are forever grateful for the trust you have placed in the Foundation’s hands — to lead, to build, and to grow the next generation of innovators. Your confidence confirms that the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation is on the right path, and we will continue to support and inspire the innovative spirit for years to come.

Curt Brown
ASF Chairman & Space Shuttle Astronaut

FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO MESSAGE

Shaping the Future and supporting the next frontier of innovation has been the dream that has fueled ASF for the past 35 years. This past year, the Foundation has made even more strides toward making that dream a reality. Thanks to individual supporters, that include astronauts and scholar alumni, companies and foundations, we awarded 50 Astronaut Scholarships to Astronaut Scholars.

We didn’t stop there; ASF has continued to build upon the *Innovators Gala featuring the Neil Armstrong Award of Excellence* by selecting engaging speakers, planning behind the scenes tours, and by providing high-level networking opportunities for the scholars who attend the weekend. The research the Astronaut Scholars share during the Technical Conference confirms that they are ensuring the United States will have a strong foundation for years to come. The additional programs that ASF continues to establish will assist our scholars in becoming successful leaders and entrepreneurs. The newest program, *American Dream Makers*, will roll out in the summer of 2019 enabling scholars to connect with an *Innovation Corps*, comprised of established entrepreneurs and leaders who will assist students and alums chart their own paths toward future successes.

Technology, exploration and innovation exploded with the beginning of the space race. The discoveries and inventions created from early Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo programs fueled scientific passion in our human race. Sixty years ago, President John F. Kennedy set a goal to land a man on the moon and return safely to the Earth within that decade; Apollo 11 accepted and answered this challenge when the first humans, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin set foot on the lunar surface in July 1969. Now, fifty years later, as we celebrate the *Apollo 11 50th Anniversary* with special events and educational programs, we continue to keep our focus on the future. Our first Astronaut Scholar astronaut will launch to the International Space Station this spring 2019, carrying with her the *Apollo 11 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coins*, bringing about full circle of the past meeting the present and inspiring the future. We are extremely proud to be part of advancing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in the United States and look forward to the continuing explorations and innovations of our future astronauts as well as our Astronaut Scholars.

ASF has been built *On the Shoulder of Giants*, and with your help *We Are Shaping the Future!*

Tammy Sudler
ASF President & Chief Executive Officer



SUPPORTING ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS INNOVATORS OF TOMORROW

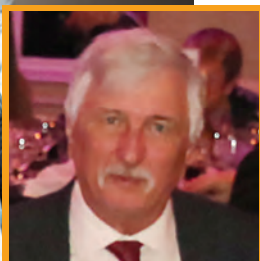
Building *On the Shoulders of Giants*, the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation and its supporters continue to assist those who make a difference by providing scholarships to the best and brightest scholars in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



CHRISTOPHER J. FERGUSON

BOEING COMMERCIAL ASTRONAUT, FORMER NASA ASTRONAUT & ASF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER

"Astronaut Scholars fuel the engine that drives business. An investment in their future is an investment in the future of America."



RAY GILDEA

ASF DONOR

"I am currently witnessing how ASF is profoundly changing the life of Mississippi State's inaugural Astronaut Scholar. I can truly say that ASF's twin emphasis on facilitating both personal and career development through a well-conceived combination of mentorship and peer interaction, is for real. Having given to scholarship programs virtually all my life, I have never been associated with any program whose vision is so clearly linked to such positive individual and collective outcomes."

LISA SCHOTT

1987, 1988, 1989 ASTRONAUT SCHOLAR & ASF DONOR

"We support ASF because we believe in its mission to keep America in a world leadership position in innovation. Astronaut Scholars have a strong track record of creating new products, systems, and methods for solving a wide range of issues across all fields of science and engineering and are positively changing and influencing society. Together, we can all make the world a better place by supporting them."



MARIANNE GAUDIN

ASF DONOR

"ASF was a great idea in 1984, and it is a great idea today! It is a privilege and a pleasure to be involved in the mission of ASF and support our scholars across the country as they make their ideas a reality."



BILL & LINDA JAEGER

ASF DONORS & ASF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER (BILL)

"STEM and manned space flight have had a profound impact on me - with STEM making the technology we use daily possible, and manned space flight inspiring and embodying the amazing things we can achieve. It is for these reasons that I'm a proud supporter of the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation, where STEM and those who made manned spaceflight a reality come together to help develop the best and brightest scholars of today into the innovators of tomorrow." - Bill Jaeger



CREATING LIFELONG RELATIONSHIPS ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS



JESSICA BLOMBERG

1996, 1997 ASTRONAUT SCHOLAR

Jessica Blomberg, Ph.D. is the owner of Quality CMC Consulting, LLC, an international pharmaceutical development consulting company. She received the ASF Scholarship in 1996 and 1997 and holds an Honors B.S. in Chemistry from UCF (1998) and a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Duke University (2003). With over 15 years of drug development experience, Dr. Blomberg assists clients with manufacturing, testing, compliance, and regulatory strategies for small molecule and biological products. As a consultant, she has contributed to the advancement of products for acute myocardial infarction, glioblastoma, ovarian cancer, glaucoma, type 1 and type 2 diabetes, pulmonary arterial hypertension, urinary tract infections, hepatic encephalopathy, peanut allergies, and celiac disease in the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Middle East. Dr. Blomberg has taught industry training courses and holds several U.S. and international patents.

"Being a part of the ASF Family cultivates my entrepreneurial spirit. As Scholars, we have an amazing opportunity to be part of an elite team comprised of Astronauts and STEM leaders. For over 20 years, the lessons they taught me were the importance of knowledge, perseverance, and self-awareness. Success happens to those who remain disciplined and recognize true opportunity that is right for them. When I first received the scholarship, 15 were awarded and today that number has more than tripled to 50. Thank you ASF for continuing your support for past Scholars."



BENJAMIN CROMEY

2014 ASTRONAUT SCHOLAR

Benjamin Cromey received the Astronaut Scholarship in 2014 during his studies in Optical Sciences and Engineering at the University of Arizona. He loved optics so much that he is pursuing his PhD at the U of A, one of the world's premier schools for the study of light, where he will graduate in May 2020. His research is in the applications and designs of multiphoton microscopes, which are specialized microscopes that are very useful for both biological research and inorganic material studies. Benjamin has presented his work in places as far away as Sweden and Japan and is grateful to have been launched by the Astronaut Scholarship into the start of a great career.

DEBORA FAIRBROTHER

1990, 1991 ASTRONAUT SCHOLAR

Debora Fairbrother, a 1990 and 1991 Astronaut Scholar from Texas A&M University, is the Chief of NASA's Scientific Balloon Program, headquartered at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia. As chief, she oversees 10 to 15 flights annually for the program, which provides low-cost, near-space access for scientific payloads weighing up to 8,000 pounds for conducting scientific investigations in fields such as astrophysics and heliophysics. Past balloon missions have been key in developing models for space radiation exposure to supporting the science that ultimately validated the Big Bang Theory. A visionary and advocate in the field, Debora credits her Astronaut Scholar experience as critical to building the skills and confidence to rise through the ranks first in industry and then at NASA, leading a game-changing program that enables world class science.



NATHAN HADLAND

2018 ASTRONAUT SCHOLAR

Nathan Hadland, a 2018 Astronaut Scholar from Florida Institute of Technology, is pursuing a degree in Astrobiology. His research focuses on conducting atmospheric simulations of Neptune's dark spots; he also investigated in situ food productions systems (ISRU) on Mars by growing plants in Martian regolith. Nathan has worked at UTK, LPI, and will work at NOAA's Earth System's Lab this summer. He was also chosen to be a part of the International Emerging Space Leaders Crew 205 to the Mars Desert Research Station investigating multinational approaches to leadership and applied techniques learnt from his ISRU project. "ASF has provided me invaluable advice as I build my career in the space industry. The ASF community is a dynamic group of professionals and individuals that I am grateful to have access to."



JENNIFER STERN

2015 ASTRONAUT SCHOLAR

Jenny Stern is a 2015 Astronaut Scholar from the University of Kansas with a degree in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and is currently a National Defense Science & Engineering Graduate Fellow pursuing her PhD at the University of Washington. Her research focuses on the feeding ecology of polar bears using stable isotopes and fatty acid analyses paired with movement data from satellite collars. This project provides information on how polar bear diet may respond to rapid sea ice loss. She is also assessing hair growth rates using zoo polar bears to inform ecology studies in the wild. Jenny reflects, "Receiving the Astronaut Scholarship was a tremendous honor and it is an equally incredible opportunity to be a part of the supportive and engaging ASF community."



INNOVATORS OF TOMORROW ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS



Astronaut Scholars are impactful. Astronaut Scholars change the landscape of their industry. Astronaut Scholars take organizations from ordinary to exceptional. *Astronaut Scholars* are the *Innovators of Tomorrow!*

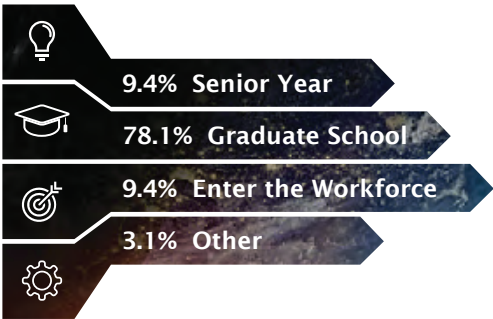
2018 ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS TOTAL # OF SCHOLARS



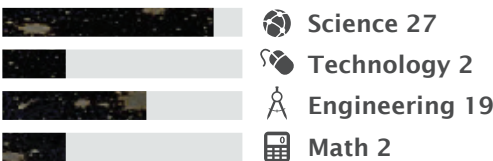
2018 ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS BY GENDER



2018 ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS PLANS FOR 2019



2018 ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS BY GENERAL DISCIPLINE



ASTRONAUT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation awarded its first seven scholarships in 1986. Each founding Mercury 7 astronaut sponsored a \$1,000 scholarship and they then began to fundraise to support future scholarships. Each astronaut would donate proceeds from their speaking engagements and shared the ASF mission wherever they went to raise awareness of both the mission and the scholarship program. Today, the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation awards fifty scholarships valued up to \$10,000 to each selected scholar. The ASF scholarship award is just the beginning for our Astronaut Scholars. Their selection is the beginning of a life-long relationship with astronauts, alumni, and great leaders who span academia, technical research, and corporate leadership

ASF values universities that are ranked amongst the country's highest rated programs in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math with graduate level research opportunities for undergraduate students. With this, the Astronaut Scholarship continues to maintain the level of prestige that has been established since the inception of the organization in 1984.

PARTNERING UNIVERSITIES





MENTOR PROGRAM ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS

This year ASF expanded upon the Mentor Program and joined forces with one of the top software programs, Chronus. This new software enabled all of the 50 2018 Astronaut Scholars and mentors to be paired successfully and efficiently. This enhancement has provided greater communication and guidance for all involved. The mentors that are paired with the scholars are great resources and are Astronauts, Astronaut Scholars, and Industry Leaders throughout all disciplines of education. Mentor Khalid Lateef, PhD in Computer Engineering at NASA, is mentoring Reilly Duffy, 2018 Astronaut Scholar, Syracuse University, Bachelor of Sciences in Environmental Engineering.

Khalid states, *"Reilly as a mentee has enriched my life by discussing academic, personal, and professional challenges that are unique to his background and his academic field. It has been awesome working with Reilly. He is definitely a future leader in his field of environmental sciences and water conservation. Before we started this journey, I had very little knowledge as to how to help plan for and guide someone in environmental sciences or what kind of work goes into water resources cleanup and restoration. As part of our mentoring partnership this year, our focus was on professional goals and planning for life after college. We achieved these goals by setting up biweekly meetings in the beginning. The objective of these meetings was to short-list companies for sending job applications. We then refined his references list and finalized his resume through these meetings. As a result of this mentorship program and Reilly's personal efforts, he is heading into a very bright future. I'm truly grateful to have had this experience."*



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS

ASF's Professional Development Program provided many opportunities for Astronaut Scholars to learn from various individuals and receive guidance helping them grow as individuals. Some opportunities provided were:

- Sit-down discussion with Astronaut Ellen Ochoa
- Tour of Capitol Hill (observed a Senate debate on Pell Grant funding for new FY budget)
- Guest speaker Michael Griffin, Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Development
- Discussion from Dr. Fleming Crim, National Science Foundation, Chief Operating Officer
- Panel discussion on NSF Programs with Area Leads and Graduate Research Program personnel
- Business skills presented by Carol Tyler.

NEIL ARMSTRONG™ AWARD OF EXCELLENCE ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS

Among the recognition that our scholars are provided, the most prestigious is the *Neil Armstrong™ Award of Excellence* that is presented annually to an Astronaut Scholar Alumni. This award serves as a recognition for those who continually push the boundaries in their fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The awarded Astronaut Scholar Alumni exemplifies personal character and professional achievement mirroring the core values of its namesake, Neil Armstrong. This award is presented annually at the *Innovators Gala*.



Larry Bradley, Ph.D.
2018 Neil Armstrong™ Award
of Excellence Recipient

The Astronaut Scholarship is a scholarship like no other. Receiving the Astronaut Scholarship was a huge honor and inspiration for me. Some of the most memorable moments in my life have been due to the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

Dr. Larry Bradley received the Astronaut Scholarship in 1993 at the University of Central Florida, earning bachelor's degrees in Physics and Mathematics. He continued his education at the Johns Hopkins University, obtaining a Ph.D. in Astrophysics. Currently, Larry is an astrophysicist, software developer, and deputy manager at the Space Telescope Science Institute, the science operations center for the Hubble Space Telescope and the James Webb Space Telescope. His research focuses on the formation and evolution of galaxies in the very early universe, where he primarily studies high-redshift Lyman-break galaxies gravitationally lensed by massive galaxy clusters. In his software developer role, he serves as the deputy manager of the Data Analysis Tools Branch and the JWST Data Analysis Component Lead, where his responsibilities include developing analysis tools for the James Webb Space Telescope and the wider astronomical community. He serves as the Deputy Principal Investigator of the RELICS Hubble Space Telescope Treasury Program, is a member of the BoRG and CLASH science teams, and has served on the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors since 2003.



APOLLO 11 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAM

The year 2018 served as preparation for the release of the *Apollo 11 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Program*. The coins went on sale January 24, 2019 and will only be available until December 31, 2019 from the U.S. Mint.

OCTOBER 11, 2018 – COIN ART UNVEILING

Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum – Washington, D.C.



DECEMBER 13, 2018 – COIN STRIKE

United States Mint – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



The **Astronaut Scholarship Foundation** was authorized as 1 of 3 non-profits to receive surcharges from the sale of the coins. All coins can be purchased through the **U.S. Mint** website at www.catalog.usmint.gov.



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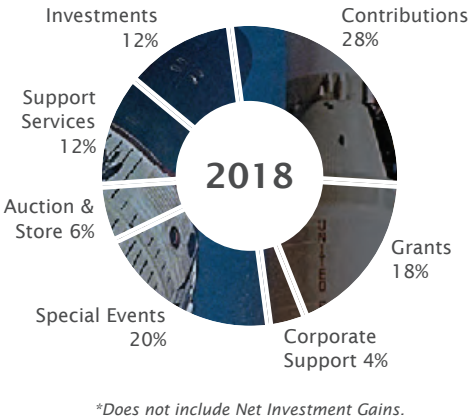
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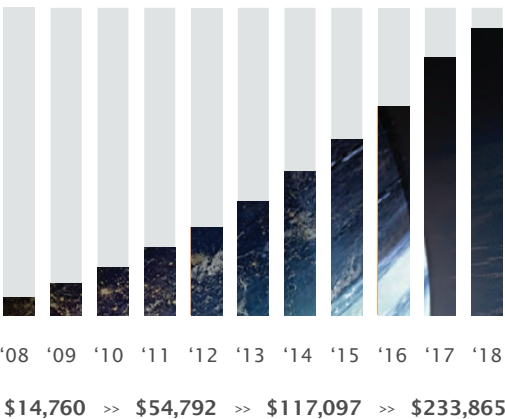
YEAR BY YEAR COMPARISON FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

SUPPORT & REVENUES	2018	2017
Contributions	\$585,109	\$295,831
Grants	\$372,525	\$25,140
Corporate Support	\$93,207	\$105,381
Special Events	\$425,824	\$588,989
Auction & Store	\$128,007	\$94,453
Support Services	\$250,000	\$313,755
Interest/Dividend Income	\$247,629	\$191,955
Net Investment Gains	(\$674,228)	\$794,025
Total Revenue	\$1,428,073	\$2,409,530
EXPENSES	2018	2017
Program Expenses	\$1,560,767	\$1,366,196
Operations Expenses	\$232,308	\$237,592
Fundraising Expenses	\$227,470	\$205,447
Total Expenses	\$2,020,545	\$1,809,235
NET REVENUE	(\$592,472)	\$600,295
NET ASSETS	\$9,731,142	\$10,323,614

SOURCES OF REVENUES FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



SCHOLARS GIVE BACK FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



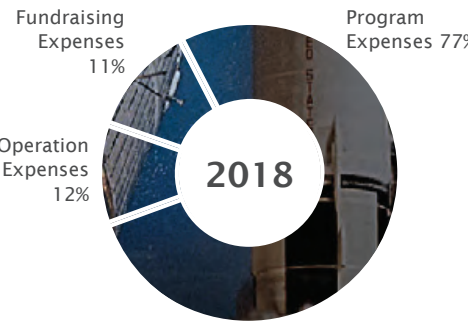
ASTRONAUT SCHOLARS SHARE

"I think the program strengths include the sense of community and the ability to create connections with scholars and other professionals in and out of my field. Amazing support system." – Allie Folcik, 2016 Astronaut Scholar

"By far, the ASF has been the most community-oriented organization I have been a part of as I'm moving beyond my undergraduate education. Beyond the scholarship, I think I've been the most grateful for what the ASF has provided and I hope will continue to provide me with in terms of opportunities and networking." – Scott Garner, 2017 Astronaut Scholar

"As a new Astronaut Scholar, I am very impressed by the level of engagement ASF is initiating with the new Scholars." – Villhelm Anderson-Wolz, 2018 Astronaut Scholar

FUNCTIONAL ALLOCATION FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT





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ASF CONTRIBUTORS

Thanks to all our individuals, corporations, and foundations for supporting the mission that we proudly carry on. The generosity represented in the following pages are those who honored the Foundation with significant gifts in 2018. Their names inspire us each day as we assist to aid the United States in retaining its world leadership in technology and innovation by supporting the very best and brightest scholars in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics while commemorating the legacy of America's pioneering astronauts.

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ASTRONAUT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

www.astronautscholarship.org



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SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION**

CREATED BY THE MERCURY 7 ASTRONAUTS

