

# Welcome to Mason Space Day

Sunday, October 22 • 3 to 9 p.m.

[science.gmu.edu/MasonSpaceDay](https://science.gmu.edu/MasonSpaceDay)



College of Science



**SPACE**

**THE FINAL FRONTIER**



**Mason Space Day**

*proudly presents*

# **THE FIRST**

**Glimpses into the  
history of space flight**

# ENOS (1957-1962)

the first chimpanzee to orbit the Earth on November 29, 1961, aboard a Mercury Atlas rocket. His flight lasted two orbits. He was in good condition after the landing. The successful mission led to the first human orbiting earth. He died from dysentery; a disease not related to his space flight.



# HAM (1957 – 1983)

He was the first chimpanzee in a suborbital flight on January 1961. He flew in a Mercury – Redstone 2 mission as part of the U.S. Space Program Mercury



# Yuri Gargarin (1934 – 1968)

He was the first human in space.  
He completed one orbit in a Vostok  
1 capsule on April 12, 1961. He  
died in a plane crash in 1968.



# Alan Shepard Jr. (1923 – 1998)

He was the first American in space.  
He flew in a Mercury 5 capsule  
on May 5, 1961. It was a  
suborbital flight.



# John Glenn (1921 – 2016)

He was the first American to orbit the Earth in a Friendship 7 capsule on February 20, 1962. He flew again at age 77 on the Space Shuttle Discovery on October 29, 1998, becoming the oldest person to fly in space.





# Valentina Tereshkova (1937 – present)

She was the first woman in space. She flew on a Vostok 6 mission on June 16, 1963. She completed 48 orbits in 71 hours.



# Alexei Leonov (1934 – 2019)

The first person to walk in space on March 18, 1965. He spent more than 10 minutes outside his spacecraft. In 1975, he commanded the Soyuz spacecraft in the Apollo - Soyuz mission.



# Ed White

(1930 – 1967)

The first American to perform a space walk on June 3, 1965. He was assigned as senior pilot to the first Apollo mission, Apollo 1, and died in a cabin fire during a launch test together with Virgil “Gus” Grissom and Roger B. Chaffee



# Neil Armstrong (1930 – 2012)

The first human to set foot on the Moon. At 10:56 PM EDT on July 20, 1969, Armstrong stepped from the Eagle onto the Moon's surface with the words, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."



# Sally Ride

(1951 – 2012)

The first American woman and the youngest person in space. She was only 32 years old when she flew on Space Shuttle Challenger on June 18, 1983.



# Guion Bluford (1942 – present)

As a crew member of the STS-8 mission, he became the first African American in space on August 30, 1983. He participated in four Space Shuttle flights.



# Mae Jemison

## (1956 – present)

She was the first African American woman in space. She orbited the Earth in Space Shuttle Endeavor from September 12 – 20, 1992



# Eileen Collins

## (1956 – present)

The first woman to pilot a shuttle and the first woman in command of a shuttle mission. She flew the Space Shuttle Discovery in 1999. The mission included a docking maneuver with the Mir space station.





# Andy Thomas (1951 – present)

He became the first Australian in space. His first mission was STS-77 on May 19, 1996. The crew deployed several satellites. He has logged over 177 days in space.



# Dennis Tito

## (1940 – present)

He became the first space tourist to fund his own trip into space. He spent almost eight days on the International Space Station and paid 20 Million Dollar for the trip.



# Anoushei Ansari (1966 – present)

An Iranian-American engineer and co-founder of Prodea Systems, she became the first woman space tourist on September 18, 2006. She was also the first Iranian in space. Her family is the title sponsor of the Ansari X Prize.



# Kalpana Chawla

## (1962 – 2003)

The first Indian born American Astronaut. Her first space mission was flight STS-87 on the Space Shuttle Columbia as a mission specialist and primary robotic arm operator. Her final mission was on Space Shuttle Columbia which disintegrated on re-entry in 2003.



# Peggy Whitson (1960 – present)

The first woman in command of the International Space Station in 2008. She is a biochemist and Astronaut. With 376 days in space, she holds the American record for cumulative days in space.



# Yang Liwei

## (1965 – present)

The first Chinese Taikonaut. He spent 21 hours and 22 minutes in space during the Shenzhou 5 mission of the Chinese Space Program on October 15, 2003.



# Zhai Zhigang

## (1966 – present)

During the Shenzhou 7 mission he became the first Chinese Taikonaut to perform a space walk.



# Liu Yang

## (1978 – present)

She became the first Chinese woman in space on the Shenzhou 9 mission on June 16, 2012.





# Chiaki Mukai (1952 – present)

The first Japanese woman and the first Asian woman in space. She is a board certified physician. She flew aboard Space Shuttle Columbia in 1995.



# Mamoru Mohri

## (1948 – present)

The first Japanese Astronaut.  
He flew his first space mission aboard STS-47 in 1992 as chief payload specialist for Spacelab-J.  
He made another trip into space as part of mission STS-99 in 2000.



# ESA ASTRONAUTS

The first European Astronauts -

*(from left-right)*

Claude Nicollier (Switzerland), Ulf Merbold (*Germany*), and Wubbo Ockels (*The Netherlands*)



# SpaceX Crew 1

The first  
operational  
mission in the  
Commercial  
Space Program.





**TO BOLDLY GO WHERE  
NO ONE HAS GONE BEFORE**