

Generations of STEM:

Dr. Jeanette Epps

NASA Astronaut

Jeanette was chosen as a NASA astronaut candidate in 2009, and qualified in 2011 after training. She is assigned to the crew heading to the International Space Station in March 2023. If this mission takes place, she could become the first African American woman to live on the International Space Station.

With an undergraduate degree in physics, Jeanette went on to earn a doctorate in aerospace engineering and was a NASA Graduate Student Researchers Project Fellow.

Jeanette has developed a wide range of skills throughout her career. Before NASA, she worked at Ford Motor Company with a patent related to front collisions in automobiles. She also worked at the CIA for seven years as a Technical Intelligence Officer in Iraq, receiving multiple performance awards. Her NASA training included spacewalk, geology, and robotics training, learning Russian, and T-38 jet training. She spent nine days as an aquanaut aboard the Aquarius underwater laboratory, and studied geology in Hawaii. Jeanette has served as lead CAPCOM at Mission Control, which is the individual who communicates directly with astronauts. Jeanette also is a skilled public speaker, regularly appearing as a guest speaker at the University of Maryland, where she received her PhD.



Image Source: [NASA](#) Information Sources: [NASA Biography](#), [University of Maryland](#), [Wikipedia](#)