

## Cosmic Girls™ Global Competition Gives Young Women the Chance to Become Astronauts

GOODLETTSVILLE, TN, UNITED STATES, October 2, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ --On October 4, 2024, in celebration of the United Nations-declared World Space Week, the Cosmic Girls™ Foundation is proud to launch a global competition designed to inspire young women to pursue careers in space and the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Under the motto, "Launching dreams in girls and girls into space to become multiplanetary," the foundation aims to revolutionize support for emerging female space talent. Cosmic Girls™' mission is to attract young women and retain them in the long-term technological talent pipeline through space education and astronaut training programs.

Recent data highlights the urgent need for this initiative: in 2023, figures from the United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) revealed that only 11 percent of astronauts worldwide are women, and just 6.6 percent of spacewalkers come from only 10 countries. These figures emphasize the persistent gender gap



Cosmic Girls<sup>™</sup> Foundation Logo



Worldclass commercial astronaut training

in space exploration, underscoring the relevance of Cosmic Girls<sup>™</sup> goals.

To mark the start of World Space Week 2024, Cosmic Girls™ invites girls from around the globe

to participate in this groundbreaking competition and connect with its international network of program partners. A special webinar will also be held during the week, showcasing Cosmic Girls™ innovative approach to fostering a positive environmental impact in their future space missions. This event is accessible through the official World Space Week website.

Bridging the Gender Gap in Space

Cosmic Girls<sup>™</sup> is specifically focused on closing the gender gap in the space industry. "Our mission is to build confidence in economically disadvantaged young women around the world, inspiring them to pursue big ambitions like becoming astronauts. We equip them with the necessary



4 girls building a rocket

skills, opportunities, training, and international connections to realize those dreams," said Dr. Mindy Howard, founder and CEO of Cosmic Girls™.

Global Competition and Documentary Film

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Imagine a young girl from a disadvantaged background winning this challenge. It's not just a personal victory, but a beacon of hope and inspiration for her family, community, and country." *Dr. Mindy Howard*  Cosmic Girls<sup>™</sup> proudly announces the launch of the "6 Girls 6 Continents Competition", which kicks off on October 4, 2024. This unique competition is open to young women aged 14 to 19, offering them the opportunity to participate in space and STEM education programs from Cosmic Girls global program partners. Participants will compete for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: six outstanding finalists, one from each inhabited continent, will be selected to undergo commercial astronaut training.

This astronaut training includes a parabolic flight, mental preparedness training (<u>Inner Space</u> <u>Training</u>), and centrifuge training. The grand prize winner among the six finalists will earn a breathtaking suborbital spaceflight. Dr. Howard underscores the importance of the competition: "Imagine a young girl from a disadvantaged background winning this challenge. It's not just a personal victory, but a beacon of hope and inspiration for her family, community, and country." The inspiring journey of the six finalists will be documented in a film that will be released globally at a later date.

**Registration and Participation** 

To register and participate in the competition, visit the <u>Worldwide Space Competition</u> | Cosmic Girls.

Corporate Partners and Sponsors Welcome

The success of the Cosmic Girls<sup>™</sup> astronaut training initiative depends on the support of our benefactors. We warmly invite companies, foundations, and individual donors who are passionate about advancing this vision to collaborate with the Cosmic Girls<sup>™</sup> Foundation and explore <u>various sponsorship opportunities</u>.

Cosmic Girls Foundation: Building the Next Generation of Female Astronauts

The Cosmic Girls<sup>™</sup> Foundation is a recognized 501c3 charity in the United States and an ANBI charity in the Netherlands. It is dedicated to providing space and STEM education, essential life skills through its prestigious partner programs across six continents, and unparalleled commercial astronaut training to economically disadvantaged young women worldwide.

For more information about the Cosmic Girls Foundation, its mission, and donor opportunities, please contact:

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