recently we had the pleasure to speak with space pioneers legends both on and off the screen.
michelle nichols and George Takei have been outspoken advocates for greater diversity in exploration and have leverage their fictional personas as commander neyo tahara in Captain hikaru soon in star trek to help our field grow and become stronger.
Michelle starting with the space shuttle program you help nasa actively recruit astronauts of color for the first time as one of the people to benefit from.
y our work could you please tell us how

that came about and what you did John

Yardley requested my help because

nothing new how much our space program

meant to me and how much I cared about

making our space program more inclusive

as an asian in a prominent role often

entrusted with huge responsibilities

sooo broke new ground

did you see yourself as a role model

well at that time I was just happy to be

doing Star Trek when I got cast I knew

that this was first of all personally

fantastic opportunity to be playing a
character who was a part of the leadership team speaking without an accent boldly going where no one had gone before you know but at the same time it was i was mindful of the fact that as an asian-american I was representative figure dr. king told me that I could not leave i thought would you talk back to martin luther king but when I really said was why he said the show whether you like it or not you've become a symbol if you leave they can replace you and it will be like you were never there
what you accomplished for all of us will
only be real if you stay