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00:00:00,070 --> 00:00:04,110

>>KATRINA: One pink, furry monster is really excited about NASA.

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00:00:04,110 --> 00:00:08,180

>>LOLA: Thank you, tell us about your super powers!

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00:00:08,180 --> 00:00:12,250

>>DIANA: Well Lola, I don't have super powers.

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00:00:12,250 --> 00:00:16,380

>>LOLA: Of course you do! You know about science and math!

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00:00:16,380 --> 00:00:20,550

>>KATRINA: NASA engineers Sandra Cauffman and Diana Trujillo

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00:00:20,550 --> 00:00:24,750

partnered with the muppet Lola from the Latin American Sesame Street program,

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00:00:24,750 --> 00:00:28,810

Plaza Sésamo, to talk about how kids can grow up to one day work on NASA

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00:00:28,810 --> 00:00:32,870

missions like MAVEN and Curiosity. Their panel was part of an event with the

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00:00:32,870 --> 00:00:37,050

Inter-American Development Bank, promoting early mathematics and science education

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00:00:37,050 --> 00:00:41,230

in Latin America and the Caribbean. Sandra Cauffman,

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00:00:41,230 --> 00:00:45,430

an engineer and project manager at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland,

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00:00:45,430 --> 00:00:49,480

spoke about the day as a child when she watched the Apollo 11

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00:00:49,480 --> 00:00:53,580

Moon landing and decided that she too wanted to go to the Moon.

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00:00:53,580 --> 00:00:57,720

This seemed an unlikely dream for a young girl in Costa Rica, but her mother had some words

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00:00:57,720 --> 00:01:01,750

of encouragement. >>SANDRA: And she says, "Sandra, you never know,

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00:01:01,750 --> 00:01:05,930

if you put forth enough effort, the world will go around and around,

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00:01:05,930 --> 00:01:09,970

and you never know what may happen. You might eventually reach your dreams."

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00:01:09,970 --> 00:01:14,000

>>KATRINA: Cauffman battled poverty, gender stereotypes, and language barriers to eventually

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00:01:14,000 --> 00:01:18,070

work in the U.S. on a suite of NASA projects such as the MAVEN orbiter

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00:01:18,070 --> 00:01:22,170

at Mars. >>SANDRA: I never went to the Moon, but I landed

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00:01:22,170 --> 00:01:26,340

among the stars. Thank you so much. [applause]

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00:01:26,340 --> 00:01:30,380

>>KATRINA: Diana Trujillo, an engineer at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in

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00:01:30,380 --> 00:01:34,580

Pasadena, California, described her quest growing up in Colombia to find

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00:01:34,580 --> 00:01:38,650

a female role model in the aerospace sector. During college,

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00:01:38,650 --> 00:01:42,700

she was about to give up, until she found a NASA magazine detailing the

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00:01:42,700 --> 00:01:46,800

education and backgrounds of female astronauts. >>DIANA: To me, this

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00:01:46,800 --> 00:01:50,970

magazine gave me all the role models that I was so desperately looking for.

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00:01:50,970 --> 00:01:55,050

And it gave me that push that I needed to pursue my dream in exploration.

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00:01:55,050 --> 00:01:59,230

>>KATRINA: Soon Trujillo was awarded a competitive NASA Academy internship.

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00:01:59,230 --> 00:02:03,300

>>DIANA: Thousands of people apply. 18 people got selected,

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00:02:03,300 --> 00:02:07,350

and I was the only hispanic among them. [interrupted by applause]

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00:02:07,350 --> 00:02:11,500

[applause] >>KATRINA: This set her on a path

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00:02:11,500 --> 00:02:15,610

toward working on projects like the Mars Curiosity rover, and becoming a

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00:02:15,610 --> 00:02:19,790

role model herself for the young girls back home. >>DIANA: We can make a

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00:02:19,790 --> 00:02:23,810

difference for these girls. We can help them dare mighty things as well.

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00:02:23,810 --> 00:02:27,870

Thank you very much. [applause]

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00:02:27,870 --> 00:02:31,970

>>KATRINA: Cauffman and Trujillo spoke on the need for supporting young girls and boys

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00:02:31,970 --> 00:02:36,080

equally throughout Latin America, and providing them resources and

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00:02:36,080 --> 00:02:40,180

role models to be motivated in science and math. Their discussion has

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00:02:40,180 --> 00:02:44,330

already had a big influence on one young girl. >>LOLA: Because now, Lola

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00:02:44,330 --> 00:02:48,340

wants to become not only a soccer player,

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00:02:48,340 --> 00:02:52,390

and a president and a ballet dancer,

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00:02:52,390 --> 00:02:56,450

she also wants to become a

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00:02:56,450 --> 00:03:00,550

math teacher and an astronaut! Yes, this has...

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00:03:00,550 --> 00:03:04,690

[Lola fades out] ...been a wonderful day because Lola