

NASA ASTRONAUT

JESSICA WATKINS



1
00:00:06,550 --> 00:00:03,909
exploring is about pushing the bounds of

2
00:00:09,270 --> 00:00:06,560
what we are capable of as humans

3
00:00:11,270 --> 00:00:09,280
it gets at who we are intrinsically as

4
00:00:13,190 --> 00:00:11,280
people and so because of that i think it

5
00:00:14,910 --> 00:00:13,200
really is something that unites all of

6
00:00:17,750 --> 00:00:14,920
us together here on

7
00:00:20,230 --> 00:00:17,760
earth my name is jessica watkins and i'm

8
00:00:21,990 --> 00:00:20,240
a mission specialist for nasa's spacex

9
00:00:24,070 --> 00:00:22,000
crew 4 mission to the international

10
00:00:26,550 --> 00:00:24,080
space station

11
00:00:29,109 --> 00:00:26,560
at a pretty early age i got kind of set

12
00:00:31,189 --> 00:00:29,119
on the idea of becoming an astronaut

13
00:00:33,830 --> 00:00:31,199

that was when i kind of first voiced the

14

00:00:35,990 --> 00:00:33,840

dream and interest in space and in being

15

00:00:37,990 --> 00:00:36,000

an astronaut in particular

16

00:00:40,229 --> 00:00:38,000

my parents always stressed the

17

00:00:41,670 --> 00:00:40,239

importance of getting a good education

18

00:00:44,389 --> 00:00:41,680

and finding something that you're

19

00:00:47,029 --> 00:00:44,399

passionate about and so finding geology

20

00:00:48,790 --> 00:00:47,039

finding that love of mind that passion

21

00:00:50,869 --> 00:00:48,800

was really a turning point for me in my

22

00:00:53,350 --> 00:00:50,879

career

23

00:00:55,830 --> 00:00:53,360

my graduate work focused mostly on the

24

00:00:57,270 --> 00:00:55,840

geology of mars it was part of my

25

00:00:59,590 --> 00:00:57,280

interest in wanting to pursue

26

00:01:00,790 --> 00:00:59,600

internships at nasa and gave me that

27

00:01:03,270 --> 00:01:00,800

exposure to those different

28

00:01:05,910 --> 00:01:03,280

possibilities of what careers are

29

00:01:08,390 --> 00:01:05,920

possible in this planetary geology field

30

00:01:10,149 --> 00:01:08,400

deciding to be an astronaut is kind of

31

00:01:12,070 --> 00:01:10,159

setting out a dream for yourself and

32

00:01:14,550 --> 00:01:12,080

then kind of stowing it in the back of

33

00:01:16,390 --> 00:01:14,560

your head at least in my case

34

00:01:18,390 --> 00:01:16,400

so the day that i received the phone

35

00:01:19,910 --> 00:01:18,400

call to invite me to come down to

36

00:01:22,710 --> 00:01:19,920

johnson space center and become an

37

00:01:23,749 --> 00:01:22,720

astronaut just really was truly a dream

38

00:01:25,109 --> 00:01:23,759

come true

39

00:01:27,060 --> 00:01:25,119

ladies and gentlemen the newest

40

00:01:30,550 --> 00:01:27,070

astronaut jessica watkins

41

00:01:32,390 --> 00:01:30,560

[Applause]

42

00:01:34,490 --> 00:01:32,400

and i still am waiting for somebody to

43

00:01:37,429 --> 00:01:34,500

pinch me and wake me up

44

00:01:39,270 --> 00:01:37,439

[Music]

45

00:01:41,429 --> 00:01:39,280

the opportunity to be the first black

46

00:01:43,910 --> 00:01:41,439

woman on an international space station

47

00:01:46,069 --> 00:01:43,920

long duration crew is exciting it

48

00:01:48,710 --> 00:01:46,079

certainly is important to me and

49

00:01:51,830 --> 00:01:48,720

impactful to me to be able to

50

00:01:54,389 --> 00:01:51,840

be a part of the legacy that so many

51
00:01:56,550 --> 00:01:54,399
before me have paved the way to

52
00:01:59,350 --> 00:01:56,560
enable me to be here now as much as i

53
00:02:02,550 --> 00:01:59,360
can be a small part of that legacy i'm

54
00:02:04,789 --> 00:02:02,560
honored to have the opportunity

55
00:02:07,350 --> 00:02:04,799
being selected to be a part of this crew

56
00:02:10,229 --> 00:02:07,360
4 mission is truly an honor

57
00:02:13,990 --> 00:02:10,239
i am so excited about the opportunity to

58
00:02:15,830 --> 00:02:14,000
fly with chell samantha and bob

59
00:02:17,750 --> 00:02:15,840
all three of them are very different

60
00:02:19,670 --> 00:02:17,760
they all bring different skill sets

61
00:02:21,510 --> 00:02:19,680
different experiences

62
00:02:24,410 --> 00:02:21,520
but i think all four of us together

63
00:02:25,750 --> 00:02:24,420

really just coalesce well as a crew

64

00:02:27,990 --> 00:02:25,760

[Music]

65

00:02:28,869 --> 00:02:28,000

i think launch day is going to be the

66

00:02:31,190 --> 00:02:28,879

day

67

00:02:33,509 --> 00:02:31,200

that all this starts to really finally

68

00:02:35,030 --> 00:02:33,519

feel real

69

00:02:37,910 --> 00:02:35,040

and so i just look forward to that

70

00:02:47,590 --> 00:02:37,920

moment of exhale and of excitement