



1

00:00:07,109 --> 00:00:12,940

In recognition of African-American History
Month, NASA salutes the contributions of African-Americans

2

00:00:12,940 --> 00:00:15,369

to the cause of space exploration.

3

00:00:15,369 --> 00:00:17,800

\h
My name is Nate Boclair III.

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00:00:17,800 --> 00:00:21,009

I have been working for NASA Marshall Space
Flight Center.

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00:00:21,009 --> 00:00:29,750

\hI started in 1977 as a co-op and currently
today I am manager of the Space Systems Operations

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00:00:29,750 --> 00:00:34,260

Branch within the Mission Operations Laboratory
of the Engineering Directorate.

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00:00:34,260 --> 00:00:41,160

I remember being a very small boy and watching
on TV the astronauts walk on the moon on a

8

00:00:41,160 --> 00:00:42,770

small black and white TV.

9

00:00:42,770 --> 00:00:47,780

\hI remember asking my father if they are
really on the moon and he said yes they are

10

00:00:47,780 --> 00:00:49,079

actually on the moon.

11

00:00:49,079 --> 00:00:55,350

When I entered college I decided that I wanted

to go into a technical field which was computer

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00:00:55,350 --> 00:00:56,800

science and mathematics.

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00:00:56,800 --> 00:01:01,430

\hSomething magically happened for me while I was in college which was the cooperative

14

00:01:01,430 --> 00:01:02,670

education program.

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00:01:02,670 --> 00:01:08,030

Initially, I was reluctant because I thought it would delay my education so basically I

16

00:01:08,030 --> 00:01:12,720

did enter the co-op program and that's how I first entered my foot into NASA.

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00:01:12,720 --> 00:01:15,900

The biggest influence in my life would be my parents.

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00:01:15,900 --> 00:01:19,720

\hBoth of my parents are educators.

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00:01:19,720 --> 00:01:24,780

Some of the values they instilled in me would be a strong Christian faith, they taught me

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00:01:24,780 --> 00:01:30,520

the importance of education, having a strong educational background foundation.

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00:01:30,520 --> 00:01:35,420

\hAlso they taught me the importance of working well with other people.

22

00:01:35,420 --> 00:01:40,850

I think it's very important to have a personal strategic plan where basically you set your