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00:00:12,099 --> 00:00:17,340

Hi, I'm Dr Renee Horton- the SLS Lead Metallics and Weld Engineer at NASA Michoud Assembly

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00:00:17,340 --> 00:00:18,340

Facility.

3

00:00:18,340 --> 00:00:23,210

I am SLS, Boots on the ground.

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00:00:23,210 --> 00:00:27,369

Not all of us get a chance to do what we love to do every day so I feel extremely lucky

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00:00:27,369 --> 00:00:29,919

to work at NASA because it is my dream job.

6

00:00:29,919 --> 00:00:34,780

I spent many nights gazing at the stars as a child wondering if there was anything beyond

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00:00:34,780 --> 00:00:36,230

our universe.

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00:00:36,230 --> 00:00:40,239

We often traveled to Biloxi to visit my uncle in the Air Force and we would stop at the

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00:00:40,239 --> 00:00:44,699

rest area outside of Stennis Space Center and I would get a chance to play in the NASA

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00:00:44,699 --> 00:00:47,559

area and pretend I was going into space.

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00:00:47,559 --> 00:00:51,429

I decided one day I wanted to be an astronaut to see the beyond.

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00:00:51,429 --> 00:00:55,769

I joined the Air Force Rotc and during my physical I learned that I had a hearing loss

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00:00:55,769 --> 00:01:01,159

and later was diagnosed with a hearing impairment and I couldn't be an astronaut, but I would

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00:01:01,159 --> 00:01:03,389

be able to send astronauts into space.

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00:01:03,389 --> 00:01:07,049

I hold an Electrical Engineering degree from LSU.

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00:01:07,049 --> 00:01:11,210

I am the first in my family to receive a PhD and the first African American to receive

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00:01:11,210 --> 00:01:15,710

my PhD in Material Science and Physics from the University of Alabama.

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00:01:15,710 --> 00:01:17,130

GO TIGERS!

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00:01:17,130 --> 00:01:19,909

My degree was funded all on NASA scholarships.

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00:01:19,909 --> 00:01:25,479

I started working for NASA after I graduated in the Materials Test lab, then in System

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00:01:25,479 --> 00:01:30,479

Engineering and now I am the SLS lead metallic and weld specialist at NASA Michoud Assembly

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00:01:30,479 --> 00:01:31,590

Facility.

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00:01:31,590 --> 00:01:36,000

My current priority is the Vertical Assembly Center which is the largest weld tool in the

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00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:37,000

world.

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00:01:37,000 --> 00:01:40,689

Each day I walk the factory floor with a lot of pride in working for such a talented work

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00:01:40,689 --> 00:01:44,310

force that is made up of people from all walks of life, cultures and races.