



Charles Bolden
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1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,890
Recently we had the pleasure to speak
with two space pioneers legends both on

2
00:00:04,890 --> 00:00:06,270
and off the screen.

3
00:00:06,270 --> 00:00:11,010
Nichelle Nichols and George Takei have
been outspoken advocates for greater

4
00:00:11,010 --> 00:00:15,750
diversity in exploration and have
leverage their fictional personas as

5
00:00:15,750 --> 00:00:22,619
Commander Nyota Uhura and Captain Hikaru Sulu in Star Trek to help our field grow

6
00:00:22,619 --> 00:00:23,939
and become stronger.

7
00:00:23,939 --> 00:00:29,340
Nichelle, starting with the space shuttle
program you helped NASA actively recruit

8
00:00:29,340 --> 00:00:33,690
astronauts of color for the first time
as one of the people to benefit from

9
00:00:33,690 --> 00:00:39,719
your work could you please tell us how
that came about and what you did.

10
00:00:39,719 --> 00:00:45,329
John Yardley requested my help because
NASA new how much our space program

11
00:00:45,329 --> 00:00:52,440
meant to me and how much I cared about

making our space program more inclusive.

12

00:00:52,440 --> 00:00:58,050

As an asian in a prominent role often entrusted with huge responsibilities

13

00:00:58,050 --> 00:01:00,570

Sulu broke new ground

14

00:01:00,570 --> 00:01:07,470

did you see yourself as a role model? Well at that time I was just happy to be

15

00:01:07,470 --> 00:01:13,439

doing Star Trek when I got cast I knew that this was first of all personally

16

00:01:14,540 --> 00:01:19,670

fantastic opportunity to be playing a character who was a part of the

17

00:01:19,670 --> 00:01:24,560

leadership team speaking without an accent boldly going where no one had

18

00:01:24,560 --> 00:01:30,860

gone before you know but at the same time it was I was mindful of the fact

19

00:01:30,860 --> 00:01:34,010

that as an Asian-American I was

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00:01:35,710 --> 00:01:43,930

a representative figure. Dr. King told me that I could not leave I thought would

21

00:01:43,930 --> 00:01:50,080

you talking about Dr. Martin Luther King but what I really said was "why?". He said the

22

00:01:50,080 --> 00:01:58,030

show whether you like it or not you've
become a symbol. If you leave they can

23

00:01:58,030 --> 00:02:03,310

replace you and it will be like you were
never there,