

STORIES OF SPACE

PRESS RELEASE

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Analog Astronaut Beth Mund Is Sending Your Story to Space

The STORIES of Space™ Project will explore the power of storytelling, inclusion in space, and SD card technology

(Naperville, Illinois) – Analog astronaut, former NASA public affairs officer, podcast host, and passionate advocate for science and space exploration [Beth Mund](#) is building a catalog of stories to send to space. Specifically, Mund plans to send at least 50,000 stories to space to answer the question: “Can a story change the way we explore space?”

Mund believes the answer is yes, and she’s inviting everyone on Earth to join her.

“Space is for everyone,” said Mund. “With [the STORIES of Space™ project](#), you and your story can be a part of space - literally.”

To participate, Mund is inviting everyone to join in - from space enthusiasts of all ages, to industry professionals and experts - to write their story and share it on the STORIES of Space [website](#) between now and December 31, 2022. She and her team will then load the stories onto a variety of SD cards. This multi-phase, global project will send the first collection of stories to space as part of an Aegis Aerospace MISSE payload carrier, where they will orbit for 6 months on board the International Space Station, before returning to Earth.

“This is your chance to be a part of history and to launch a piece of yourself into space,” said Mund. “Your story - one of the most unique parts of you - will travel far above you ~~and be a part of history for 6 months.~~ You’ll look up into the sky and know that you and your

In addition to orbiting stories, Mund and her team will be conducting several science experiments as part of the STORIES Project - one that will help examine technologies for both our application on earth and in our future in space.

“There is a real science component to our effort,” she said. “We want to see how data storage devices stand up to the rigors of space. Several familiar brands will be tested, and when they return to Earth, we will be able to see how the devices handled the

stresses of launch, re-entry, a microgravity environment, and the radiation found in space.

“As more satellites enter space, data storage is going to be critical, and we’ll know exactly how these devices perform so that organizations can make plans accordingly.”

For interested STORIES of Space participants, stories must be no more than 2,500 words and must be in English. To submit, visit [storiesofspace.com](https://www.storiesofspace.com).

“Space can be something we can all have access to,” she said. “Today, the STORIES of Space Project gives us all a chance to send a very personal piece of our lives to space in the form of the stories we will share with the universe.

“Each story has an opportunity to impact the way we explore space, and the STORIES project plans to deliver stories of space beyond the International Space Station,” Mund explains. “50,000 story submissions flying to low Earth orbit (LEO) is just the beginning. Sending stories beyond LEO to the Moon and even to Mars are project plans we’ll accomplish one story at a time!”

About Beth Mund

Beth Mund is an analog astronaut, CEO of Stellar Communications, former NASA communications officer, keynote speaker, and space communicator. At NASA, she served as a public affairs officer and International Space Station communications officer. As an analog astronaut, she served on two (2) simulated missions; one to Mars at the HI-SEAS research facility in Hawaii, and a lunar simulation in Poland at the Lunares Research Station. Beth is the weekly host of the “Casual Space” podcast, providing “intimate conversations each week with astronauts and authors, scientists and CEOs, looking to share their love for space exploration while helping to inspire the next generation of difference makers.”

Mund currently serves on the Space Camp Alumni Board and the Space Drinks Association. She is a founding board member of the Women’s Leadership Alliance at her alma mater, Loras College. For more information, visit <https://www.bethmund.com/>.

About Stories of Space™ (The STORIES Project)

Stories of Space™ (The STORIES Project) is an open-source project available to a global community of storytellers who wish to connect people to space. Driven by a team of scientists, researchers, communicators, and writers, The Stories of Space Project™ believes that a story can change the way we explore space. Selected Stories of Space submissions will be cataloged on SD cards (secure digital cards or a tiny flash memory card designed for high-capacity memory and various portable devices) scheduled to fly in 2023. The SD cards are part of a payload test project flown by NASA on a MISSE

satellite carrier, provided by Aegis Aerospace, a space and technology company that provides turn-key solutions to government and commercial customers in the space and defense industries. MISSE is a highly flexible, commercial facility owned and operated by Aegis Aerospace that is permanently installed on the external ISS truss near the solar arrays. For more information, and to submit a story, visit

<https://www.storiesofspace.com/>

