



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, June 29, 2023

**Astronaut Scholarship Foundation Announces the
2023 Neil Armstrong™ Award of Excellence Recipient**

ORLANDO – The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) announced Andrew Jones will be the recipient of the esteemed 2023 Neil Armstrong™ Award of Excellence. The award recognizes an Astronaut Scholar alum who best exemplifies the personal character and professional achievements of the first human to walk on the Moon, Neil Armstrong. ASF will present Jones with the award during its Innovators Gala on Aug. 19, 2023, in Orlando, Florida.

"The Neil Armstrong™ Award of Excellence honors our former Scholars who have moved on to make an incredible impact in their fields," said Curt Brown, chairman of ASF's board of directors. "Andrew's work in creating analytical tools to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and pioneering carbon dioxide removal solutions demonstrate a remarkable commitment to vision and innovation that is creating a more sustainable future for our planet. He is an inspiration to scientists and innovators worldwide, and we're proud to honor him with this well-deserved award."

Jones is the CEO and co-founder of Activated Research Company (ARC), an innovation firm that develops analytical technology and equipment for scientists. He and his company have received several awards, including: Best New Product Awards from The Analytical Scientist; a National Science Foundation (NSF) Small Business Innovation Research Phase II award; and the 35 and Under Young Entrepreneur Award, among others. Jones also co-founded Carba, which aims to remove billions of tons of carbon dioxide by 2035 to prevent the worst potential effects of climate change.

A 2008 Astronaut Scholar, Jones graduated summa cum laude from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities in 2009 with a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in chemistry with honors. He earned his doctorate in chemical engineering with a focus on heterogeneous catalysis and renewable fuels production at the University of California-Berkeley. Jones currently holds four patents.

"I'm deeply honored to be selected for this prestigious award and amongst such distinguished recipients," Jones said. "Neil Armstrong is a true American hero and trailblazer. I've benefitted throughout my education and career from seeing him and his peers achieve what others thought was out of reach. His passion, bravery and determination will forever be extraordinary. I wish to inspire hope and propel science through my work. With humble and deeply felt gratitude, I thank the Armstrong family, the sponsors of the Innovators Week & Gala and the board of the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation for bestowing this honor upon me."



The Neil Armstrong™ Award of Excellence was established in 2016 through a partnership with the Purdue Research Foundation, the Armstrong family and Jim Hays, a friend of Neil Armstrong. Intended to pay tribute to the legacy of Armstrong and his fellow space explorers, this honor is bestowed upon a former Astronaut Scholar who mirrors the core values of character and professional achievement of its namesake.

About Astronaut Scholarship Foundation

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) is an Orlando-based, 501(c)3 nonprofit commemorating the legacy of America's pioneering astronauts. Founded by the six surviving Mercury 7 Astronauts in 1984, ASF partners with industry leaders, universities, and individual donors to achieve its mission of supporting and rewarding exceptional college students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of the Treasury policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

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