

# Stichting Cosmic Girls/ Cosmic Girls Foundation Year End 2023 Report: A year of new beginnings and excitement

For our first year in operation, 2023, we are excited to share the remarkable journey of both Stichting Cosmic Girls/Cosmic Girls Foundation, two charitable organizations both founded this year in the United States and in Netherlands, with the same mission. Our mission is getting girls into space and making gender equity a reality by including geographically diverse and economically vulnerable girls within the incoming space generation. Our goal is to feed the female astronaut talent pipeline with upskilled tech-savvy girls and make a positive impact both on the girls and the incoming astronaut pipeline worldwide. Our inaugural year has been filled with milestones, gratitude, and a deep sense of purpose.

Our Mission: The space industry's growth is growing at an exponential pace. However, its long-term sustainability depends upon expanding the astronaut talent pool and space industry pipelines to keep pace with its voracious demands. Cosmic Girls™ wants to be a driver of solutions by bringing as many qualified individuals into space education, leadership programs, and space training programs, as possible. But our passion doesn't stop there. As space travel becomes an industry, we want to equip young girls to be part of the conversation - and participation! Cosmic Girls knows that space travel must also be informed by women's voices from all over the world; the other half of humankind! Thus, our mission; to make gender equity in space a reality by including geographically diverse and economically vulnerable girls within the incoming space generation.

How will we make this all happen? We plan on starting a worldwide competition in 2024 (6 Girls, 6 Continents) that will drive girls to our program and get them excited to join us. Our 6 Girls, 6 Continents Competition entrants will receive free skillset training from our nonprofit partners from around the world. Our judges will then select six finalists (one per continent) to receive world-class commercial astronaut training at our international facilities. Of those six, one lucky winner will receive an actual trip to space on a suborbital flight! The competition will begin in 2024. The girls will sign up with our non -profit partners and enter their programs. When the astronaut training program for the finalists will begin, will be somewhat dependent on when we acquire seats on an available spaceflight and enough funds collected.

#### **Accomplishments of 2023:**

#### 1. Establishment and Recognition:

- **Stichting Cosmic Girls** officially founded in May 2023 in the Netherlands, received its ANBI status in July 2023.
- Cosmic Girls Foundation officially founded in July 2023 in the state of Delaware, and received its 501(c)(3) status in the United States in November 2023.
- Women to Space Coin- Together with the Royal Dutch Mint, we established the first and only limited edition "Women to Space" Coin to highlight the need for getting



more females into space. The coin's design echoes the theme of our logo's design by showing off the "gravity defying hair", characteristic of female astronauts.

Launch of charity- We launched the charity, and its website which went live in
 October 2023 with a press release and accompanying social media campaign which
 reached all 6 continents.

### 2. Collaborations and Partnerships:

The **business partners** that we have established are partners who support Cosmic Girls either financially, or by delivering services in kind. Our first partner in 2023 was with the Royal Dutch Mint to create the "Women to Space" coin. Our other business partners are:

- Baker and Donelson our (pro-bono) legal counsel in the United States
- NASTAR center
- Blue Abyss
- United Nations World Space Week
- Spaceflight Institute
- The Hague Institute for Global Justice

Our **non-profit partners** who will be delivering the training/upskilling to the girls in 2024, are our lifeblood. We have established partners from all six continents who will offer both online and face to face programs for the girls to amplify our impact and reach a wider audience.

Our non-profit partners include:

- Space4Girls
- Limitless Space Institute
- Girls in Aerospace
- Rocket Women
- VHTO
- Project Fearless
- Out of the Box
- SSERD
- One Giant Leap
- African Girls Empowerment Network
- Travelling Telescope
- Wogel Aerospace
- Habitat Marte
- Escuela de Astronautas
- CASE (California Association for STEAM Education)

## 3. **Program Highlights:**

For this year, our aim as an organization was to "get on the map" and get the awareness out that only 12 countries in the world have a female astronaut representing them, and only 12% of all people who have been to space are women; and, how Cosmic Girls wants to change those numbers to bring





about more gender equity. In the short period that we have gone public, (from October through December 2023) we have already done a number of awareness spreading initiatives:

- United Nations World Space Week highlights- we were highlighted as a main item featured on UN World Space Week's website, typically seen by over 770 million social media impressions – October 2023
- Launched the Cosmic Girls website and social media channels
- Established the Advisor Board for Cosmic Girls
- Photoshoot and advertising campaign for the Royal Dutch Mint at the launch of the "Women to Space" Coin at the ESTEC center in Noordwijk, Netherlands- October 2023
- Talking to people on the streets of Amsterdam social media Campaign- about whether they knew of any female scientists and astronauts- October 2023
- Created the movie trailer, "Launching Dreams in Girls and Girls in Space" to introduce Cosmic Girls to the world and the video, "Cosmic Girls, Dream, Dare, Do"
- Celebrity endorsement from band, Jamiroquai, to help share our posts more widely, and linking their song, "Cosmic Girl" with Cosmic Girls
- Launched our online web shop with Cosmic Girls merchandise
- Key fundraising initiative- Our DREAM! DARE! DO! Crowdfunding campaign launched on "Giving Tuesday" November 2023

## **Financial Overview**

Here attached below are the financial statements for both the Cosmic Girls Foundation in the U.S. as well as for Stichting Cosmic Girls in the Netherlands for the year 2023.



Statement of Financial Position 12.3



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**Acknowledgments:** We extend our deepest gratitude to our dedicated volunteers, donors, and supportive community partners. Your commitment and belief in our mission have been instrumental in our success.

**Looking Forward:** In 2024, Cosmic Girls is excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. We remain committed to getting girls upskilled with our non-profit partners and building a community that gives a strong message that "GIRLS AND WOMEN ARE WELCOME IN SPACE". Let's show these young girls that a united global community believes in their dreams and supports their ability to achieve them. The future of space exploration depends upon them. And the success of Cosmic Girls depends upon you – investing in girls from every corner of the world. The more they soar, the more we all fly high.

**Get Involved:** We invite you to join us on this meaningful journey. Whether through volunteering, donations, or spreading awareness, your support can make a significant difference. Visit our website at www.cosmicgirls.org to learn more about how you can get involved.

Thank you for being a vital part of Cosmic Girl's first-year journey. Together, we can continue to make a positive impact and create a more equitable future for all who would like to explore space. Welcome to this transformative journey and thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mindy Howard Founder & CEO

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Stichting Cosmic Girls Netherlands (an ANBI registered charity)

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