

2015 Zero Robotics Middle School ISS Final Competition Astronaut Referee Biographies



Scott Kelly
USA

@StationCDRKelly



Oleg Kononenko
Russia

@OlegKononenko



Kimiya Yui
Japan

@Astro_Kimiya

Scott Kelly: Scott Joseph Kelly is an American astronaut, engineer and a retired U.S. Navy Captain. A veteran of three previous missions, Kelly was selected in November 2012 for a special year-long mission to the International Space Station, which began in March 2015. **#YearInSpace.** Kelly commanded the International Space Station on Expedition 26. Kelly's identical twin brother, Mark Kelly, is a former astronaut. The Kelly brothers are the only siblings to have traveled in space. On March 7, NASA announced the selection of 10 investigations for the study of the identical twin astronauts and, in doing so, launched human space life science research into a new era. The investigations will provide NASA with broader insight into the subtle effects and changes that may occur in spaceflight as compared to Earth-based environments. NASA and the National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI) are jointly managing the ambitious **#TwinStudy.**

Kelly's first spaceflight was as pilot of Space Shuttle Discovery during STS-103 in December 1999. This was the third servicing mission to the Hubble Space Telescope, and lasted for just under eight days. His second spaceflight was as mission commander of STS-118, a 12-day Space Shuttle mission to the International Space Station in August 2007. Kelly became a long-duration crewmember of ISS on October 9, 2010, after arriving on a Russian Soyuz spacecraft. He arrived at the station during Expedition 25, serving as a flight engineer. He took over command of the station on November 25, 2010, at the start of Expedition 26 which began officially when the spacecraft Soyuz TMA-19 undocked, carrying the previous commander of the station, Douglas H. Wheelock.

Oleg Kononenko: On March 29, 1996, Oleg was selected as a cosmonaut candidate by the Interagency Committee, and from June 1996 to March 1998, he underwent cosmonaut training at the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center. On March 20, 1998 he was awarded the title of test cosmonaut by the Interagency Qualification Committee. In October 1998 he began training as part of the group of cosmonauts selected for the International Space Station (ISS) Program. Kononenko performed his first spaceflight April 8 – October 24, 2008 as Soyuz TMA-12 flight engineer and ISS flight engineer. During this flight JEM PM of the Kibo module and the JEMRMS manipulator were installed, and ATV-001 "Jules Verne" operations took place for the first time. Kononenko logged 12 hours 15 minutes of EVA time in two spacewalks and logged a total of 199 days in space.

Kimiya Yui: Kimiya Yui was born in Nagano. He graduated from School of Science and Engineering, National Defense Academy of Japan in March 1992. He joined Japan Air Self Defense Force, Ministry of Defense in April 1992. From December 2008 until his retirement, he worked as a Lieutenant Colonel at the Air Staff Office, JASDF. He was selected to be an astronaut candidate by Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) in February 2009 and joined JAXA in April 2009. Since April 2009, he has participated in about two years of Astronaut Candidate (ASCAN) Training at NASA, which includes scientific and technical briefings, intensive instruction on the ISS systems, Extravehicular Activity (EVA), Robotics, physiological training, flight training using the T-38 jet trainer, and water and wilderness survival training. He was certified as an ISS astronaut in July, 2011. He participated in the 16th NASA Extreme Environment Mission Operations (NEEMO 16) in June, 2012. In October 2012, he was assigned as a crewmember for the ISS Expedition 44/45 mission. Expedition 44 began June 11, 2015 and ends September 11, 2015. This expedition includes human research, biology and biotechnology, astrophysics research, physical science investigations and education activities.

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Special Guest Biographies



Catherine Coleman: Cady Coleman is an American chemist, a former United States Air Force officer, and a NASA Astronaut with over 180 days in space, accumulated over two Space Shuttle missions and a six-month expedition to the International Space Station (ISS). She launched and landed aboard the Russian Soyuz spacecraft, and she acted as the lead robotics and science officer during her tenure aboard the ISS, performing the second-ever free flyer robotic capture from the ISS. Presently, Cady is a liaison to NASA's newest Commercial Space partners. She helps integrate their supply ship operations aboard the ISS, specifically those pertaining to capture and berthing with the Space Station robotic arm. Coleman graduated from Wilbert Tucker Woodson High School, Fairfax, Virginia, in 1978; in 1978–1979 she was an exchange student at Røyken upper secondary school in Norway with the AFS Intercultural Programs. She received a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1983, and a doctorate in polymer science and engineering from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 1991 as a member of the Air Force ROTC. She was a member of the intercollegiate crew and was a resident of Baker House.



Greg Johnson: Gregory H. Johnson is the President and Executive Director for the Center of the Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS). As Executive Director, Johnson is responsible for leading the CASIS staff to maximize utilization of the International Space Station (ISS) to benefit life here on Earth. CASIS identifies innovative applications and develops new partnership opportunities to promote utilization of our nation's orbiting laboratory. Prior to CASIS, Johnson was a decorated officer and pilot with the United States Air Force. He flew 34 combat missions in support of Operation Desert Storm and 27 missions during Operation Southern Watch. In 1994, he became a test pilot at Edwards Air Force Base, where he flew and tested the F-15C/E, NF-15B and several other aircraft. Retiring as a Colonel after nearly 25 years in the U.S. Air Force, Johnson has logged over 5,000 flight hours in more than 50 different aircraft. In 1998, Johnson was selected as a NASA Astronaut and ultimately piloted two Space Shuttle missions (STS-123 and STS-134, both aboard Space Shuttle Endeavour) where he spent nearly 32 days in orbit and contributed to the assembly of the ISS. In October 2011, he began a rotational assignment as the Associate Director of External Programs at NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. In that role, Johnson managed all public affairs, outreach and educational programs at the Center. Johnson received his B.S. in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Air Force Academy, his M.S. in flight structures engineering from Columbia University and his M.B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin.



Alice Peisch: Representative Peisch serves as the House Chair of the Joint Committee on Education, a post she has held since 2011. In her role as Chair, Representative Peisch works on matters relating to education from birth through grade 12. During her tenure, she has tackled a broad range of issues on topics such as special education, charter schools, school discipline, curriculum, school finance, and virtual schools. In addition, her efforts led to the adoption of legislation requiring fingerprint-based national criminal history background checks for all teachers, school employees and early education providers in Massachusetts, bringing the state in line with all other states in requiring these employees to undergo a national criminal history record check. Overall, Representative Peisch's top priority is to ensure a top quality education for all students in the Commonwealth. For her work on education collaboratives, Representative Peisch received the 2012 Walt Turner Award from the national Association of Educational Service Agencies. She was also the recipient of the 2012 Massachusetts Association of School Committees' Legislator of the Year award and the 2012-2013 Massachusetts Reading Association's Reading Advocate Award. Representative Peisch received an A.B. from Smith College in 1976, a J.D. from Suffolk University in 1979, and a MPA from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in 2009.

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