

A JANET K HOWE GAME | a live  
remote  
interactive  
space game

# MARS RAIDERS

Mars Raiders is a work of fiction but inspired by real world events and organizations.  
Curious to know more?



INASA is a fictional organization based on the idea of two real world organizations joining forces.

**NASA** (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)

**ESA** (European Space Agency)

An article from August 14, 2020 shows that these [alliances have already started forming on the military front](#).



While the agenda presented in Mars Raiders is fictional, Space Force is an entirely real organization. The information in the packet provided by the INASA intern is pulled directly from the [Space Force](#) website.

Space force was officially created in December 2019 when Donald Trump signed a [\\$738 billion defense spending bill](#).



Blue Origin is a fictional corporate entity based on two real world organizations.

**SpaceX** the brain child of billionaire Elon Musk

**Blue Origin** the pet project of Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos

Both are profit based and brag rideshare and payload programs (relatively).



Command Star or ComStar for short is a fictional organization based on the idea of two real world organizations joining forces.

**CNSA** (China National Space Administration)

**ROSCOSMOS** (The Russian Space Program)

This alliance was based on recent news that [Russia is considering a lunar base with China](#) rather than the United States.



The space pirates are entirely fictional but their founding mission is based on a real organization:

[ClearSpace Today](#)

The information about the organization sent through by ASANI is pulled directly from their website with a fictional article attached. Space junk is a very real issue as it threatens current and future space missions. This is also evidence of the potential for humans to continue to create waste and litter space.

## The Science

### 2020 Mars missions:

Mars comes closest to earth every 26 months.

Due to this in July 2020, three Mars Missions were launched.



[NASA's  
Mars Rover](#)



[China's  
Tianwen-1](#)



[The United Arab Emirates'  
Hope Probe](#)

These missions each aim to explore and learn more about the planet. While exploratory missions like these are launch many organizations are looking to create bases on the moon to launch future Mars missions. There seems to renewed interest in space across the world with the aim of getting humans to Mars.

### The Chrones Mineral:

While the Chrones mineral is entirely fictional, it was inspired by the [2017 discovery of a wax worm that could eat plastic](#). There was much excitement around this discovery but the popular interest died down when it became clear this was not an end-all solution to the planet's plastic waste.



# MARS RAIDERS CREATIVE TEAM



**Emily Marso** *She/Her/Hers* (Jamie) is an actor, motion capture performer, and voiceover artist based in Chicago. Past credits include *Boy* (TimeLine Theatre), *Wild Boar* (Silk Road Rising), *The Grapes of Wrath* (The Gift), and *Fun Harmless Warmachine* (New Colony), among others. Other Chicago credits include work with Goodman, Northlight, Writers, Shattered Globe, and more. Her television credits include a recurring role on *Chicago Med* as Nurse Susie and *Chicago Fire* (NBC). Film credits include *An Exquisite Meal*; *Swipe Up*, *Vivian!*; and the upcoming *The Last Stand of Bobby Coe*. Video game credits include the motion capture performance for Kitana in *Mortal Kombat 11* and *Mortal Kombat 11: Aftermath* (NetherRealm Studios). Commercial credits include campaigns for State Farm, McDonald's, and Illinois Board of Tourism. Emily graduated with a BA degree in theatre, political science, and Chinese from Northwestern University. She's represented by Paonessa Talent. She also recently passed the Turing Test. For more, visit [emilymarso.com](http://emilymarso.com).



**Ned Baker** *He/Him/His* (ASANI / Intern) is a filmmaker, actor, and wrestling fan based in Chicago, Ill. Previous theatre work includes *The Harassment of Iris Malloy* (Detroit Public Theatre), *Farewell My Friend: The Romance of Romeo and Juliet* ([re]discover theatre), and *The Three Sisters* (The Hypocrites), as well as writing and directing with his co-founded company Rabid Bat Theatricals. Previous work as a filmmaker includes music videos for Friends of the Bog and Nire Nah, and most recently the short *Western The Last Stand of Bobby Coe*, which hits festivals this year (hopefully in person). Work outside the performing arts includes tutoring middle and high school students and editing competitive film games for remote bonding (NedsPowerHour@gmail.com for more info).



**Liam Collier** *He/Him/His* (Stage Manager) is playwright, director, and theatre maker. Born and raised in New York, Liam moved to Chicago in 2017 to pursue his passion for immersive theatre and arts education. Recent credits include *iBuddy* (Stage Manager, *Totally Human*), *QuaranStream Theatre Festival* (Producer), *Three West: An Immersive Staged Reading* (Playwright, Self-Produced), *Grace and the Hanukkah Miracle* (Stage Manager, Chicago Immersive), *Masque Macabre* (ASM & Puzzle-master, Strawdog Theatre), *Car Play: A Motor Performance* (Co-Creator and Performer, TheatreFirst), *Beowulf* (Directors' Assistant, We Players), and *Cat* (Director, Dixon Place). Liam currently works as the Education and Engagement assistant at Goodman Theatre.



**Janet K Howe *They/Them/Theirs*** (Creator) is a non-binary creator working at the intersection of theatre and games. Their work focuses on creating positive change and learning through playful theatrical experiences and games. Janet has directed and created immersive and interactive theatre in five countries and is the former Artistic Director of Chicago based (re)discover theatre. Their work includes full building immersive take overs, intimate one-on-one experiences, and board games. Janet has trained with Punchdrunk, Third Rail Projects and worked with interactive companies such as Coney, ZU-UK, and Blast Theory. [www.janetkhowe.com](http://www.janetkhowe.com)



**Julian "Joolz" Stroop *They/Them/Theirs*** (Writing & Development / All Recorded voices) Ah, stranger, quick, come in from the cold... have you met Joolz? Joolz makes art. Sometimes Joolz makes other things. Strange, terrible, unspeakable things. You may have seen them in the Passage Theatre's ALL-ONE! The Dr. Bronner's Play, in This is a Chair as part of Haven Theater's Directors Haven, in Masque Macabre with Strawdog Theater Company, or most recently: screaming silently in your own nightmares. When they aren't polymorphing into other creatures/things, you may find them doodling monsters, writing stories, or playing D&D. If you're feeling brave, follow them on Instagram @itsjoolz.



**Sofi Lee-Henson *She/Her/Hers*** (poster designer) is an immersive experience director and performer, graphic designer, moss wrangler and brain surgeon with the Dr Leon: Neural Enhancement Clinic. Based out of Notting Hill, London, UK. She has been poking at augmenting the human experience since 2013 after graduating from Central Saint Martins School of Art & Design, and the Secret Cinema School of "I'll work in any department". Sofi established her company XNN Systems in 2014, creating pseudo scientific, psychological experiments and mindfulness experiences encased in a thick, often pastel pink coloured paddling pool. She has worked with leading UK companies such as Secret Cinema and Fire Hazard Games. <https://xnn.systems>