

NASA mathematician Katherine Johnson being honored in bronze

4 June 2018



whose calculations helped astronauts return to Earth, is being honored at her alma mater with a bronze statue and a scholarship in her time.

West Virginia State University says a dedication ceremony is planned for Aug. 25, the day before Johnson's [100th birthday](#).

Long before the digital era, Johnson worked as a human "computer" at the agency that became NASA, working in relative obscurity as an African-American woman. Her contributions were later recognized in the "Hidden Figures" movie, with actress Taraji P. Henson playing her role.

West Virginia State hopes to endow the [scholarship](#) at \$100,000, awarding money to students majoring in science, technology, engineering and math, targeting people who are underrepresented in those fields.

© 2018 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

In this Feb. 26, 2017, file photo, Katherine Johnson, the inspiration for the film, "Hidden Figures," poses in the press room at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. Johnson, the NASA mathematician whose calculations helped bring Apollo astronauts back to Earth, is being honored at her alma mater with a bronze statue and a scholarship in her time. West Virginia State University says a dedication ceremony is planned for Aug. 25, 2018, the day before Johnson's 100th birthday. (Photo by Jordan Strauss/Invision/AP, File)

Katherine Johnson, the NASA mathematician

APA citation: NASA mathematician Katherine Johnson being honored in bronze (2018, June 4) retrieved 23 May 2019 from <https://phys.org/news/2018-06-nasa-mathematician-katherine-johnson-honored.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.