

## **MAVERICKS CIVILIAN SPACE FOUNDATION AND CALDWELL VINEYARD LAUNCH A PARTNERSHIP IN SUPPORT OF ROCKET SCIENCE**

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The Mavericks Civilian Space Foundation and Rocket Science by Caldwell today announce the formation of a strategic alliance whose mission is to create and fund practical, hands-on programs that are designed to inspire and engage the next generation in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The foundation's Mavericks Explorers Program conducts educational and research opportunities through sub-orbital space missions designed, built, and flown by high school students, enabling them to demonstrate their mastery of the four fundamental disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Through the Mavericks Explorers Program, students have built and successfully conducted missions into the upper atmosphere to altitudes of over 100,000 feet to deploy nano-satellites and NASA atmospheric research payloads.

The Caldwells have a passion for flight, space, science and education. In 2002, the family created a signature bottling called Rocket Science by Caldwell, which in recent years has been used for funding educational outreach in this area. Since 2010, Rocket Science has been the official wine poured for the Astronaut Hall of Fame Induction Gala held by The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation scholarships are granted to those students who demonstrate the intention to pursue research or advancement in their field upon completion of their final degree. John and Joy Caldwell said, "It is a natural progression now to promote STEM education at the secondary education level through the alliance of Rocket Science by Caldwell and the Mavericks Explorers Program and provide more candidates that are eligible for our scholarship opportunities with The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation".

Thomas Atchison, founder of the Mavericks Civilian Space Foundation said, "We look forward to working together with the Caldwells to create communities and opportunities that engage the next generation of space explorers, engineers, and scientists, all inspired by those individuals who first sent men to the moon. The alliance with Rocket Science by Caldwell is a great expression of our shared vision."

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**Mavericks Civilian Space Foundation** is a non-profit 501(c)3 educational foundation which combines raising public awareness through the inspiration and productivity of competitive challenges, with the leverage of social networking to provide resources and programs, STEM Education (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) research programs that drive civilian space exploration.

A nationally televised Science Channel documentary produced by Sony in 2010 is available for viewing on the Maverick's website at [www.rocketmavericks.com](http://www.rocketmavericks.com) It tells the story of ten LA inner-city high school students who conducted and completed the Explorers STEM education program and sub-orbital flight missions.

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**Caldwell Vineyard**, based in Napa Valley, is an ultra-premium producer of wines. Owner John Caldwell, who wrote *the book* on wine grape “clones”, has influenced what is now considered an industry standard for the use of these clones in the vineyard. In 1998, he and his wife Joy held the first ever-licensing agreement with the French Government for ENTAV-INRA clones for North America, which took clonal selections to a higher genetic level. His clonal legacy embodies his maverick approach to the craft of winemaking. For more information and to join the mailing list for these special wines visit [www.caldwellvineyard.com](http://www.caldwellvineyard.com)

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