Quincy E. Barnes

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EDUCATION

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
M.S. Aerospace Engineering Expected May 2027 GPA: 3.7
GEM Fellow

University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA
B.S. Aerospace Engineering June 2025 GPA: 3.5
Cum Laude

EXPERIENCE

SpaceX, *Starship Launch Operations – Graduate Engineer*
Starbase, TX **May 2026 – August 2026**
June 2025 – August 2025

- Commissioned a new methane sampling panel, automated sample collection, and designed a data review tool for pad operations.
- Brought a backup pneumatics panel online and implemented CONOPS for its use in flight operations.
- Integrated an engine purge skid for use in hot fires.
- Operated Starbase launch pad systems during pre-flight preparations for Starship vehicles.
- Developed Python-based automation that simplified and accelerated pre-operation activations.
- Designed a vehicle transport tracking system used across the Starbase site.
- Developed technician work plans for ship installation onto the launch mount under off-nominal static-fire configurations.

SpaceX, *Development Test Engineering Intern*
McGregor, TX **June 2024 – September 2024**
June 2023 – September 2023

- Designed and executed component-level tests for Falcon 9 and Starship hardware against defined test objectives.
- Thermally qualified critical Starship valves for flight.
- Authored test procedures aligned with component design and test objectives.
- Organized and analyzed test data to drive design decisions and hardware acceptance.
- Collaborated with test engineers on high-impact projects supporting SpaceX flight hardware development.

USC Liquid Propulsion Lab (LPL), *Fluid Systems Engineer*
Los Angeles, CA **January 2026 – Present**

- Led a team through design, component sourcing, line fabrication, and integration of a FireX fire-suppression system for the lab fluid system supporting liquid engine firings.
- Developed a custom flow-requirements calculator that defined system performance parameters.

UCI Rocket Project, *Chief Engineer*
Irvine, CA **March 2022 – June 2025**

- Led propulsion design and development of UCI's liquid methalox bi-propellant rocket, MOCH4.
- Served as Test Director for 3 hot-fire tests and 30 full-system cold-flow campaigns.
- Designed and certified the Main Valve Actuation System (dual ball valves + rotary vane actuator).
- Served on test stand crew for the first launch of UCIRPL's Liquid bipropellant rocket.

LEADERSHIP

National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) at UC Irvine, *President*
Irvine, CA **April 2022 – June 2025**

- Grew chapter membership 400% and secured the organization's first Engineering Organization of the Year award.
- Won Region 6 Small Chapter of the Year award.
- Established mentorship and committee programs while representing Black engineering and STEM students at UCI.
- Created an annual Networking Dinner Night for minorities in STEM.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Fluid Systems Testing · Cryogenic Pressure Testing · Cold-Flow Testing · Thermal Qualification · Test Procedure Development · Launch Pad Operations · CONOPS Development · Data Analysis · Python · MATLAB · SOLIDWORKS · NX · AutoCAD · 3-D Printing · Workshop/Lab experience

ACHIEVEMENTS

GEM Fellowship (USC) · "Reach for the Stars" NASA Student Town Hall Special Congressional Recognition · Cum Laude Society · Stacey Nicholas Scholarship · Deborah and Peter Pardoen Memorial Endowed Scholarship