ASA GANGJEE

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EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, CA
Undergraduate; Aeronautics & Astronautics

St. John's School, Houston, TX
Cum Laude

SUMMARY

Aerospace propulsion researcher and Stanford student building low-cost, high-performance rocket engines and propellant technologies. Work spans regeneratively cooled hybrid and liquid engines, metal 3D printed components, and metal fuel combustion, with two utility patents under review.

STANFORD INVOLVEMENT

Member, Liquid Propulsion Team, Stanford Student Space Initiative 2026

Member, ASES Bootcamp 2026
Affiliated Stanford Entrepreneurial Students; ~5% acceptance rate

Member, BASES Frosh Battalion 2026
Business Association of Stanford Entrepreneurial Students; ~5% acceptance rate

HONORS & AWARDS

YC Fellow 2026
Invite-only fellowship.

Grand Award in Engineering Technology, Statics & Dynamics 2025
International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)
Selected as 1 of 1,334 finalists from 170,000 entrants worldwide.

Adam R. Scripps Award for Innovative Engineering Technology 2025
International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)
Largest non-scholarship cash prize awarded at ISEF ($20,000).

SpaceX Award for Exceptional Innovation and Technical Excellence 2025
Largest cash prize awarded at the Texas Science and Engineering Fair (TXSEF).

Grand Award in Engineering 2025
Science & Engineering Fair Houston (SEFH)
Top honor given to 4 Senior Division projects out of 1,300 participants.

First in Category, Aerospace 2025
Science & Engineering Fair Houston (SEFH)
Top honor in Aerospace, Senior Division.

Jacobs Engineering Science Explorer Award 2025
Recognized for groundbreaking technological innovation in space exploration.

Ansys $1M Software Sponsorship 2025
Individually secured Ansys software sponsorship; license benefitted entire school.

CFturbo $375,000 Software Sponsorship 2025
Individually secured CFturbo software sponsorship; license benefitted entire school.

Simerics $25,000 Software Sponsorship 2025
Individually secured Simerics software sponsorship; license benefitted entire school.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Researcher and Designer, developed a manufacturing method for localized introduction of fluorine to disrupt metal oxide layers to increase metal utilization and combustion efficiency in solid rocket fuel. 2026

Provisional patent filed; utility patent under review.

Researcher and Designer, 1kN regeneratively cooled hybrid rocket engine designed for high modularity and low cost, enabling rapid iteration and improved test fidelity through reduction of throat erosion and extended engine lifespan. 2026

Researcher and Designer, isopropyl alcohol/nitrous oxide, 20-pound, metal printed demonstrator engine. 2025-2026

Researcher and Designer, explored low-cost turbomachinery manufacturing process using nanocrystal alloys and 3D printing to improve access to cryogenic propulsion components for individual researchers and student teams. 2025

Researcher and Designer, novel design for 3D printed aerospike rocket engine which circulates liquid propane as both a coolant and propellant, reducing weight & combustion chamber temperature, allowing for more efficient long-term burns. 2024-2025

Provisional patent filed; utility patent under review. 2025

WORK EXPERIENCE

Car Mechanic, Montrose Automotive 2023-2026

Responsible for automotive repairs ranging from oil changes and inspections to brake replacement and tire alignment.

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Wilderness First Responder 2025

Junior High-Powered Rocketry Certification, National Rocketry Association 2023

Certified Beekeeper, Responsible for hive of 100K bees, producing 100 lbs. honey 2020-present

Student Pilot's License, Federal Aviation Administration 2022

PUBLIC SPEAKING & PRESENTING

National Space Society, Presented rocketry research to industry experts. 2025, 2026

ATHLETIC & OUTDOOR

Polo: Stanford Polo Team (2026–present); Interscholastic National Championship Team, Houston Polo Club (2023–2026)

Mountaineering: Mt. Shasta (14,000 ft), solo Middle Teton (13,000 ft), Hallett Peak (13,000 ft), Mt. Frosty (8,000 ft); ice climbed Matanuska Glacier, Alaska

Endurance: 60 km and 80 km ultramarathons, Jackson, WY (2024, 2025)