

For as long as I can remember, space has been a big part of my life. I grew up with the most incredible fascination by stars and after being gifted an astronomy book for my 9th birthday, my world changed. I soon found myself, not the shy girl, but someone who was attentive and passionate to be part of something bigger than herself. My love for astronomy, space, and engineering broke barriers and I couldn't help but notice that I was so happy with the person that I'd become - someone so hard-working and passionate!

I always looked up to my parents, whom had met working for NASA as engineers. They have always been there to support me in following my dreams. It's amazing to have parents that support your goals and aspirations. However, unfortunately Space Camp wasn't one of them. I live in a big family of the most amazing people, and because of financial means, my parents have agreed that I couldn't go. I completely understood where they came from, but I knew that barriers were meant to be broken and I should never quit. After I first heard of the camp, I promised myself that I could make it there with hard work.

It would mean so much to me to be awarded a scholarship to my dreams. I've always known that I was destined to fall in love with the universe beyond Earth and I know that this passion I have will go along way with an opportunity like this, helping me on the path to become the person that I've always aspired to become. I plan to study aerospace and electrical engineering at MIT, become an engineer, and be part of something groundbreaking - the mission to Mars!

I participate in every chance I get to be part of the next generation of scientists, astronauts, engineers, and leaders. I aspire to be like astronauts Scott Kelly and Sally Ride, and hopefully someday make a name of my own. I dream of becoming a NASA engineer in the "Mars Generation".

I am currently an officer for my chapter's TSA (Technology Student Association) club. TSA has been my happy place since 7th grade, being surrounded by other kids that have the same interest level as me in STEM. I am a straight-A student taking Advanced Academics and Honors classes and, as a result, TSA provided challenge. TSA is a competitive STEM competition, and I was really successful last year. However, I know that this year is going to be different - I'm going to strive to do better. However, I know that "Champions don't show up to get everything they want; they show up to give everything they have." and I promise myself that I am going to be the best engineer I can become!

Anyways, thank you very much for your consideration. It is an honor to be able to apply for a scholarship and potentially be a part of something truly amazing.

The sky's the limit.