Space Camp Essay

by Isadora Germain

I had a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend Space Camp two summers ago and now I'm looking to further my education and experiences by attending the more advanced version of Space Camp as a high school student. I grew up in Colorado where, thanks to the lack of light pollution, I was allowed to see the true depths of the night sky. I have been enchanted by the moon for as long as I can remember. About a year ago, I realized one of the most realistic ways to someday be able to go into space would be to start working towards becoming a pilot. I joined the Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary of the Air Force, which provides me with search and rescue training, flight line marshalling training, and flying lessons in return for my volunteer service. I have taken various flying lessons through this program on both powered planes and gliders. The Civil Air Patrol has allowed me to see attending the Air Force Academy as a realistic goal that I will be able to reach with lots of hard work. The Civil Air Patrol has taught me the importance of discipline, teamwork and leadership; three key principles of any astronaut. I believe attending Space Camp this summer would be extremely beneficial to me in showing me what it takes to be an actual astronaut, and allowing me to connect that with my flight and leadership training I have already received from the Civil Air Patrol.