

Why I Want To Go To Space Camp.

By: Luisa Shea

I want to go to Space Camp because it will give me an opportunity to feel how astronaut training feels like. When I grow up, I want to become an astronaut so I can help create and study life in space. I want to take part in one of the greatest projects in the world. Our generation depends so much on satellites. If one thing fails on the satellites, we probably wouldn't be able to do anything. We have advanced so much we rely on technology to help us do ordinary things. And this generation, all of us kids will one day solve many problems previous generations haven't been able to.

I was born in Bogota, Colombia. I was adopted by a neonatologist and a financial analyst. (They are my parents.) They are raising me and my brothers and sisters and they love us so much. I have forgotten nearly everything about my past. My parents moved to Atlanta and sent us to school. They are supporting me with my space dream. When I was in 6th grade, my teacher applied me for space camp at EMORY. I couldn't go because of the Coronavirus. I am really sad, and haven't heard back from them to see if I can still go.

My space dream started when I was 7/8 years old. During black history month, our teacher had us do a project on a remarkable black person. I was assigned Dr. Mae C. Jemison, the first african american female astronaut. Ever since, I have wanted to be an astronaut. I continue reading books about famous astronauts. My favorite was the Chasing Space by Leland D. Melvin. I read about his hardships. Then I learned about Alyssa Carson. And I was amazed. She has attended Space Camp 7 times, Space Academy 3 times, and Robotics Academy once. I decided I wanted to go to Space Academy. I searched it up, and I found out about SpaceCamp.com. I was so excited, but when I saw the price my spirits sank. \$1,099 to attend space academy in Alabama. Even if my parents have the money, it is still so expensive. I saw that there were scholarships. I got excited. But when I saw that registration had ended for 2021, my spirits sank. I realized I could wait till next year to apply. But I couldn't wait that long. I searched for other scholarships for the same camp, but either they had run out, and they had already selected the winners or the applicants could only be for certain states. I never found one that said Georgia students could apply too.

I want to go to space camp, because if I don't get to become an astronaut, I can at least still have experienced how it feels. I know many kids have sent letters, some way better than mine, but I hope I can still get the chance.