I would like to be selected to attend Space Camp because I love science, and all things related to outer space. I believe I would be a good candidate because I am an all-A student, am in my school's gifted program, and attended 6<sup>th</sup> grade math and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) classes while in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade last year. Mr. Dye, one of my recommenders, was my teacher for those classes. I have also worked on two special projects with my 6<sup>th</sup> grade math and science teacher this year, Mrs. Lavery, another one of my recommenders. These projects involved me creating a hydroelectric turbine to charge a battery, and using Tinkercad to create 3-D models for a City-X project. I have also been enrolled in Virginia Tech's Kids Tech University STEM program for two years.

I want to be an engineer for NASA, and attending Space Camp will help me work toward that goal. I attended Space Camp once before in the summer of 2014 with my own money. It was amazing and it really made me want a career in a space-related field. Now I want to go back to learn more but I cannot pay for it, so I am applying for this scholarship.

If I am selected, when I return from camp I will tell all my family and friends about my awesome experience. I hope to make some new friends while I am there, and hopefully we can keep in touch and talk about camp even after we return home. My teachers (especially my science teacher) would love to hear about my experiences, and I will share them with my classmates, too. I am a member of Boy Scout troop 46, and I would ask my troop leader if I may show my troop a power point about my time there. Most importantly, I can use what I learn to help me get closer to reaching my future goal.

As I said earlier, my future goal is to become an engineer for NASA because I have always liked outer space, building things, and solving problems. Getting the chance to go to Space Camp will really help me work toward that goal. I hope you will consider me for this opportunity to go to Space Camp.

> Sincerely, Michael Hijduk