

LAUNCHING SCHOLARS

powered by **LAUNCH***Tech*



The Launching Scholars Initiative

The brainchild of US Air Force Veteran and President & CEO of LaunchTech, Venus Quates, Launching Scholars is an initiative created to offer access and opportunities to girls 15-18 who are interested in Technology, Aviation, and Aerospace. As a technologist for over 20 years, she understands the many barriers that may prevent girls and women from entering into and succeeding in STEM careers.

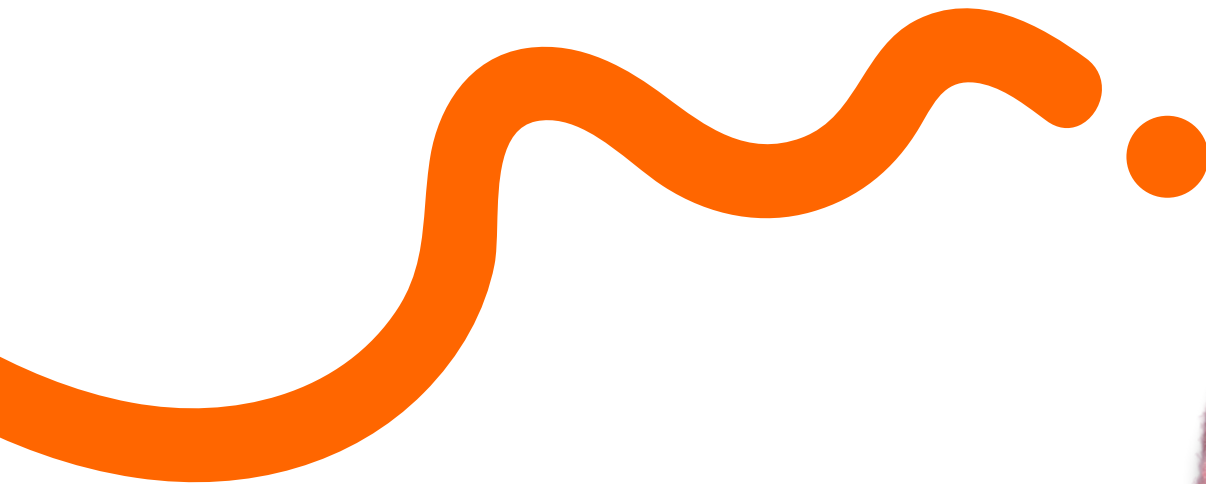
With a focus on equipping and empowering girls from under-represented groups, under-resourced neighborhoods, or low-income households, Launching Scholars aims to do our part to remove common barriers, close gaps, and change the workforce composition in STEM.

So, what better way to kick off this new initiative than a flagship scholarship that provides ten (10) girls with the opportunity to attend one of the best places to get hands-on experience in STEM fields, Space Camp? The annual flagship scholarship is open to girls in Western New York, the birthplace of LaunchTech, and Huntsville, Alabama, their current Headquarters, who are members or currently enrolled with our partner organizations and schools.



Our Mission:

Through generous scholarships, creative programming, and collaborative partnerships, our mission is to provide teen girls with a sense of belonging and experiential opportunities to increase their exposure to, expand their knowledge, and nurture their passion for Technology, Aviation, and Aerospace careers.



Our Vision:

Launching Scholars envisions a diverse and inclusive STEM workforce where negative narratives, misconceptions, barriers, and limitations are removed, so girls are empowered, excited, and able to succeed and soar in STEM education and careers.





Our Mantra:

The sky is NOT the limit.

Our Why:

- The barriers for entry into STEM are significantly pronounced for teen girls as confidence and interest wanes with age
- Intrinsic biases and stereotypes can create obstacles for the attraction, retention, and progression of girls and women to STEM studies and careers
- Statistics show significant gaps in access to challenging STEM courses and educational opportunities for girls from low-income neighborhoods and high-poverty schools
- Representation matters. We've witnessed the amazing things that Women have to offer and can accomplish in STEM. Opening the curtain to highlight these amazing role models could mean a world of difference



The Scholarship

Our flagship scholarship will provide ten (10) Scholars (six (6) from the Huntsville, AL area and four (4) from Western, NY) the opportunity to attend one of the camps below. In addition, all Scholars will receive a tote that includes various required items on the Space Camp packing list. **NOTE: For each Scholar and one (1) parent or guardian from Western New York, airfare to and from Huntsville and hotel accommodations are also included.**

3



Advanced Space Academy® explores college and career preparation through an immersive experience in science, engineering, technology and math.

4



Aviation Challenge® Mach III missions challenge trainees with freedom of control, requiring them to think about maneuvers in all three rotational-axes of flight as they take on the most advanced flight simulations, engineering principles and leadership responsibilities.

3



U.S. Advanced Cyber Academy is the U.S. Space & Rocket Center's newest STEM program and allows trainees to delve into the world of cyber technologies through blended hands-on experiences and challenges developed in cooperation with the FBI.



Eligibility Requirements:

- Scholarship open to girls between the ages of 15-18 by July 10, 2022
- Applicant must be available to attend camp July 10, 2022 - July 15, 2022 in Huntsville, AL
- Applicant must be a US Citizen
- Applicant must, at the latest, be entering their senior year of high school in August/September 2022
- Applicant must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Applicant must be enrolled or a member with one of the following schools or organizations:
 - Girl Scouts of Western New York
 - Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama
 - Jemison High School (Huntsville, AL)
 - Alabama School of Cyber Technology & Engineering
 - City Honors School (Buffalo, NY)
 - BDPA (Huntsville, AL)
- Applicant must meet income requirements

Household Members	Household Income
2	\$52,000
3	\$66,000
4	\$79,000
5	\$93,000
6	\$106,000
7 or more	\$120,000



Submission Requirements:

Applicant must apply via the Scholarship Management portal accessible via the Launching Scholars website www.welaunchscholars.com. **(The site will be open for applications from January 12, 2022 at 9:00 AM EST to January 26, 2022 at 6:00 PM EST)**

- Submission requirements include:
 - Completion of the online application form
 - The submission of a 60-second to 3-minute video
 - A signed parental consent form
 - A recommendation letter from a guidance counselor or teacher



Important Dates:

- Scholarship Submissions Begin: January 12, 2022, 9 AM EST
- Scholarship Submissions End: January 26, 2022, 6 PM EST
- Scholarship Winners Announced: February 9, 2022
- Camp Dates: July 10, 2022 - July 15, 2022



Contact Us:

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