

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 Space. 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.

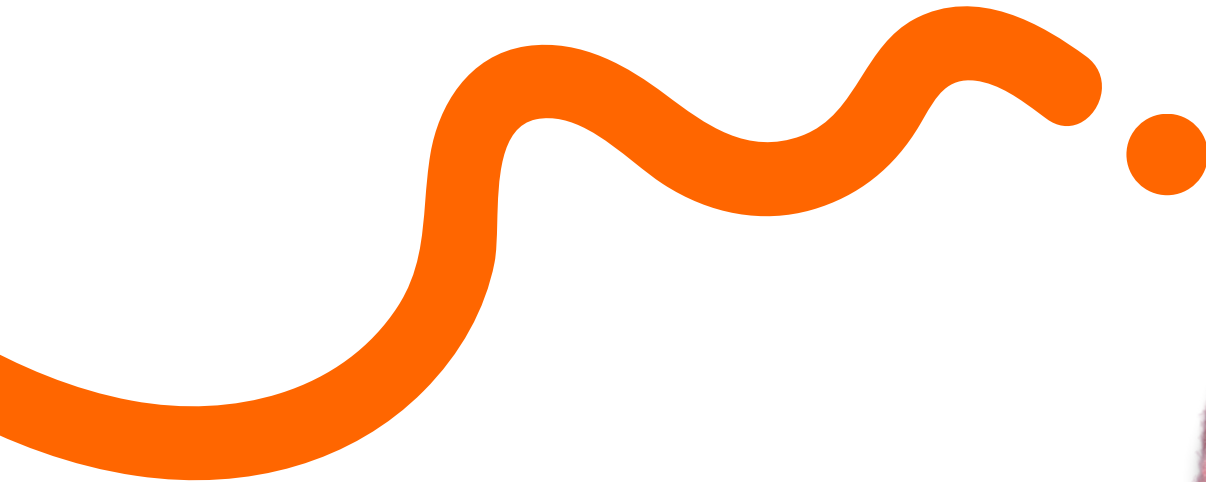
With a focus on equipping and empowering girls from under-represented groups, under-resourced neighborhoods, or income-challenged households, Launching Scholars aims to do our part to remove common barriers, close gaps, and change the workforce composition in STEM.

Our flagship scholarship 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 Alabama, their current Headquarters, who are between the ages of 15-18 years old and currently enrolled in school.



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 Space 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 five (5) from Alabama and five (5) 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.

4



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

2



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.

4



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:

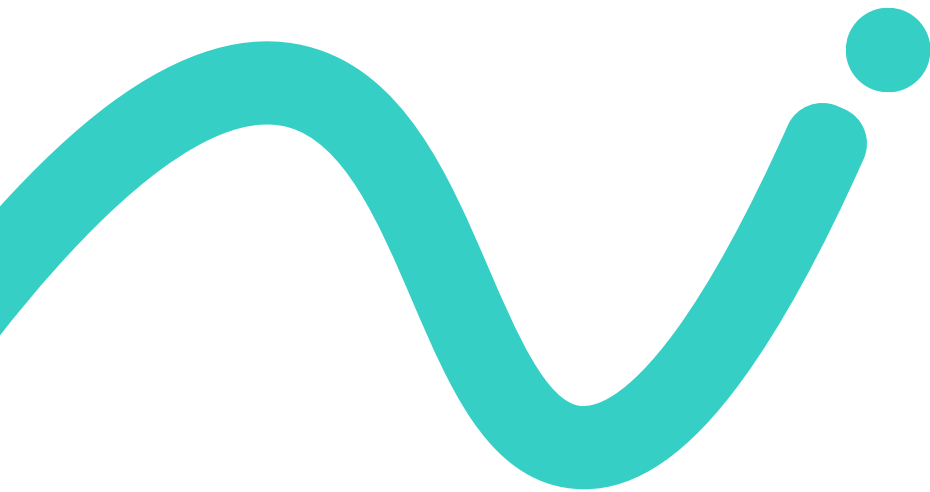
- Scholarship open to girls between the ages of 15-18 by July 8, 2023
- Applicant must be available to attend camp July 9, 2023 - July 14, 2023, in Huntsville, AL
- Applicant must be a US Citizen
- Applicant must, at the latest, be entering their senior year of high school in August/September 2023
- Applicant must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Applicant must be enrolled at a school in Western NY or Alabama
- Applicant must complete the entire Launching Scholars Application and Video Submission
- Applicant's annual single-income household must not exceed \$80,000
- Applicant's annual multi-income household must not exceed \$120,000



Submission Requirements:

Applicants 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 23, 2023, at 9:00 AM EST to February 24, 2023, at 6:00 PM EST)**

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



Important Dates:

- Scholarship Submissions Begin: January 23, 2023, 9 AM EST
- Scholarship Submissions End: February 24, 2023, 6 PM EST
- Scholarship Winners Announced: March 13, 2023
- Camp Dates: July 9, 2023 - July 14, 2023



Contact Us:

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www.welaunchscholars.com

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