



25 students from 16 schools complete two-week virtual Summer Physics Camp for Young Women

July 1, 2020

LOS ALAMOS, N.M., July 1, 2020—Twenty-five students completed the fourth annual Los Alamos National Laboratory Summer Physics Camp for Young Women, June 8–19. Held virtually for the first time, participants watched live video lectures on topics such as crystal structures, electricity and magnetism, optics, machine learning, chaos theory, biophysics, the Mars rover, and spectroscopy. Students also received materials for conducting associated hands-on experiments and coding activities at home.

“It is my honor to congratulate the dedicated young women who blazed the way for a virtual session of this two-week, intensive physics camp,” said Los Alamos National Laboratory Director Thom Mason. “I also want to thank the employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory who gave their time and expertise to help inspire the next generation of STEM experts.”

Participation in the camp is free, and students receive a certificate and stipend. The camp also covers resumes and interviews, college opportunities in New Mexico, the importance of professional societies, and internships and careers at the Laboratory.

The camp is the vision of Anna Llobet, a physicist in the neutron science and technology group at the Laboratory, who won the 2018 LANL Distinguished Performance Award for organizing the camp. The event involves volunteer presentations from roughly 80 Laboratory scientists, engineers, and other professionals, 77 percent of whom are female.

Guest presenters included Emily Calandrelli, TV host of *Xploration Outerspace*; Heather Bottom, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory systems engineer; Thomas Proffen and Catherine Schuman, data analytics experts from Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Dr. Pascale Creek Pinner, Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow and 2008 Hawaii Teacher of the Year; and Hawi Stecher, STARBASE Hawaii instructor.

The 2020 group represents the New Mexico communities of Acalde, Chimayó, Española, Los Alamos, Santa Cruz, Santa Fe, and White Rock. For the first time this year, four students attended from Hilo, Hawaii through a partnership with the Thirty Meter Telescope International Observatory in Maunakea, HI and the Hawaii Science and Technology Museum in Hilo, HI. The camp is supported by the Laboratory, the New Mexico Consortium, the LANL Foundation, Athena Scholars, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and Los Alamos and Pojoaque Valley schools. Sixty percent of

camp participants are minorities, who have been historically underrepresented in STEM fields.

The 2020 Summer Physics Camp for Young Women participants are:

Academy for Technology and the Classics, Santa Fe

Sofia Horn

Española Valley High School

Shayna Gomez

Anelia Holterman

Athena Martinez

Española/homeschool

Carla Pacheco

Hilo Intermediate School, Hilo HI

Haeli Baldwin

Christina Jung

Kea'au High School, Keau, HI

Crystal Simeon

Los Alamos High School

Rachel Butler

Kaisa Drew

Jalyn Gould

Nina Johnson

Rebeca Rocha

Los Alamos homeschool and attending University of New Mexico

Madison Morris

Los Alamos Middle School

Sofia Parra

Mandela International Magnet School, Santa Fe

Paige Humphrey

Liana Star

The MASTERS Program at Santa Fe Community College

Rui Wheaton

Monte del Sol Charter School, Santa Fe

Alegria Vierra

New Mexico School for the Arts, Santa Fe

Nico Turner

Pojoaque Valley High School

Taylor Quintana

Pojoaque Valley Middle School

Araya Vigil

Santa Fe High School

Pilar Hernandez

Santa Fe Prep

Maya Glass

Waiakea Intermediate School, Hilo HI

Andee Dela Cruz

Los Alamos National Laboratory

www.lanl.gov

(505) 667-7000

Los Alamos, NM

Managed by Triad National Security, LLC for the U.S Department of Energy's NNSA

