



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

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January 2017



SAMINA

UNITE ALUMNI

10th grade student acting as advocate and ambassador for female empowerment in STEM

WORDS OF ADVICE

My advice for someone contemplating enrolling in an AEOP program is to go for it. Regardless if think you are a STEM person, you will be able to find great opportunities and learn to love the fields to pursue and integrate into your future.

As a result of the UNITE program I feel confident in saying I am a powerful, intelligent, Asian-American woman and I will succeed in STEM.

BEST THINGS ABOUT THE PROGRAM

I have always been interested in STEM fields — computer science, coding, and studying the fundamentals of science and mathematics — but my time in the UNITE program really confirmed this for me as a career path, giving me the opportunity to work in a real college engineering environment at Howard University in Washington, DC in the Electrical and Computer Engineering laboratories. There I was able to learn the foundations of electrical engineering, which included the function of circuits, breadboards, LED lights, transistors, and resistors, that when used together were able to carry out different functions. I was also able to apply my existing knowledge of computer science to many of the tasks.

AS A RESULT OF THE PROGRAM

As my father always tells me, education is something that never ends. Regardless of your age, race, gender, or ability, education is universal. It is something that you will have for the rest of your life and is the one thing that no one is able to take away from you. As a result of the UNITE program I feel confident in saying I am a powerful, intelligent, Asian-American woman and I will succeed in STEM. I am beyond grateful that I had the opportunity to participate in UNITE and I hope to be a part of AEOP programs in the future.

HOW PARTICIPATING IN AEOP INSPIRED YOU TO ADVANCE IN STEM

This program helped me strengthen my engineering skills and my knowledge of mathematics and scientific theories. It was such an amazing opportunity to meet new people who share an interest in STEM and to have the chance to experience a university setting. I plan to create my own start-up company and employ the next generation of engineers. It is difficult to predict how our technology will evolve to meet the needs of our changing society, but I know I want to be part of that change, creating the solutions to everyday problems we have yet to encounter.