# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

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OUTREACH PROGRAM



#### ANDRES RODRIGUEZ GAINS IN THE EDUCATION OF MATH AND SCIENCE ALUMNI

High school senior, planning to study electrical engineering and mathematics.

#### **WORDS OF ADUICE**

Part of being successful in life is taking opportunities as they arise. AEOP offers a wide variety of opportunities that not only help further your learning experience, but also lead to all types of new paths and relationships!

## BEST THINGS ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The GEMS program at White Sands Missile Range was very enlightening, teaching me more about electrical, computer, rocket and mechanical engineering. The best part was not just meeting new people, repelling off of a 40-foot building or disassembling guns, but getting hands-on experience with cyber security, robotics and electrical circuits. Working in these different modules, I was guided by engineers and scientists from every field who have their Ph.D.s in physics and engineering, such as rocket expert Mr. Buch. This extraordinary opportunity drastically persuaded me to think more seriously about the STEM fields.

### HOW PARTICIPATING IN AEOP INSPIRED YOU TO ADUANCE IN THE STEM FIELD

Building and innovating objects has always been a hobby of mine, yet I never really knew where to take it. With college right around the corner, I wanted to find something in which to invest my time, effort and the rest of my life. AEOP's program helped me narrow down my choices and assisted in sparking my passion for electronics. Through the different modules we went through, such as building simple circuits on breadboards and working with Arduinos and their sensors, I now realize that electrical engineering is what I want to do with my life.

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Each month AEOP features one of our program participants and future STEM leaders. Read what these alumni have learned and what they are up to now. If you're an AEOP alumni and want to tell your story visit us here: **www.surveymonkey.com/r/AEOPAlumniSpotlight**