ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

aeop
ARMY EDUCATIONAL
OUTREACH PROGRAM
usaeop.com

f goAEOP   & @USAEOP

August 2023

RACHAEL
Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science (GEMS)

I'm a rising 12th grader from Houston Academy in Dothan, AL. Currently, I am looking into a career in medical research or something that combines my interest in law with my love for STEM. My dream school is the University of Chicago, and I hope to end up back in the Midwest as an adult.

WHAT IS YOUR PASSION OR HOBBY OUTSIDE OF STEM?

I'm the captain of my school's Scholar's Bowl team, I love watching video essays about everything and I hope to be on Jeopardy!

WHAT WERE SOME OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT THE PROGRAM YOU PARTICIPATED IN?

Participating in GEMS inspired me to learn more about the world around me and helped me find interests I love. I also learned how to look at the world and global issues with a critical yet growth-oriented view. One of the best things about GEMS was the people I met. I met one of my closest friends there, and I continue to stay in touch with many others I met. I also received invaluable advice from all eight of my mentors.

ANY WORDS OF ADVICE FOR FUTURE AEOP PARTICIPANTS?

I would suggest to all AEOP students that they take the class or involve themselves in the summer camp that they're not sure they'll like. I initially didn't want to take the medical module of GEMS since I was super squeamish, but I took it anyways; that module is one of my favorites and has inspired me to look into a medical research career.

IF YOU COULD MEET ONE PERSON LIVING OR DEAD, WHO WOULD YOU CHOOSE? WHY?

I would meet John Green. His book, "The Anthropocene Reviewed", inspired my love of critical research and essays. Plus, he seems like a cool guy. DFTBA!

Each month AEOP features some of our program participants. Read what these current and future STEM leaders have learned and what they are up to now. If you're an AEOP alumni (student and mentors) and want to tell your story visit us here: **www.usaeop.com/about/tell-us-your-story**