

# Joint Science Education Project US Participants 2012

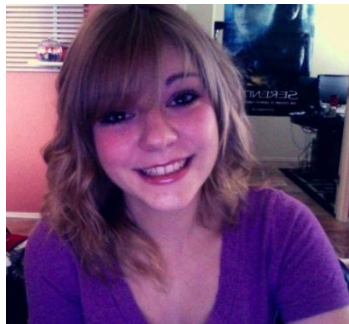
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## **Agnes Avakumoff**

My name is Agnes Avakumoff, a 10th grade student from Chuathbaluk, AK. I have attended other camps and all were about science. I wish to participate in JSEP because I want to learn more about global warming and fully experience the cultural interaction. Where I live Elders still teach me our culture and its importance in the world. I am a Yupik coming of age in a world where subsistence based living is threatened by global warming. Slowly it's all disappearing. I know a little bit of the language our Elders speak and I'm still learning it. I value cultures and I want to learn more about my own and others.



## **Sydney Barnes**

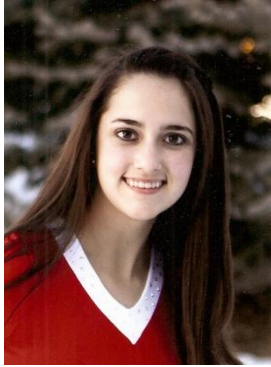


Hello everyone! My name is Sydney Barnes. I was born in Arizona and I have lived here my whole life. In case you don't know, Arizona is one huge hot desert! So spending a few days in the snow will be quite exciting for me, we don't see that all too often! I am a bright bubbly cheerleader with a vivacious personality! Although most of my time is spent on cheerleading I also take boxing classes and am involved with many other clubs at my school (including the vice president of science club, yay nerds!). I aspire to attend Stanford University and one day become a Primatologist (study monkeys). I can't wait to spend two weeks in the freezing cold getting to know you all and being able to share this incredibly rare and awesome experience with you!

## **Dana Cucci**

As I am finishing up my junior year in high school, my study and experiment on the effects of landfill bacteria on plastic is coming to an end. My project was featured at the Long Island Science Congress in March of 2012. I first became interested in independent science experiments in 8th grade after winning first place at the Long Island Science Olympiad in the sumobot competition where my school qualified for states. I am from a small town at the eastern end of Long Island, New York called East Hampton. I love going to the beach, sailing, hiking, scuba diving and anything else I can do outside. I also enjoy music-writing it, playing it, and listening to it. I hope to start college in the fall of 2013 studying science.





## **Marisa LaRouche**

My name is Marisa LaRouche. I am from Colorado and am a senior at Regis Jesuit High School. In the fall, I will be a Boettcher Scholar at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado where I plan to study engineering, geology, and Spanish. I have a passion for math and science, as well as an interest in weather and technology. Last summer I did an internship at the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) in Boulder, Colorado where I studied severe weather patterns and precipitation events. I am a dancer and have been on my high school Poms team for four years. I enjoy reading, cooking, and spending time with my family and friends. I am extremely excited to be a part of JSEP this summer, and cannot wait to embark on what I am sure will be an incredible experience.

## **Maeve McCormick**

Though I was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, I moved to Olympia, Washington with my parents and my older brother when I was six. There I grew up surrounded by mountains, forests, and beaches, all of which I was eager to visit and explore. By doing so, I quickly developed an appreciation for them and a desire to protect and preserve them for future generations. I realized very early that I wanted these environments to be my “office”. Now (as a freshman), I live in Boise, Idaho where I attend the Treasure Valley Mathematics and Science Center and Riverglen Junior High School. I’ve been privileged to have several opportunities to pursue an accelerated academic track and to propel myself into a career based on doing what I love: science. I also enjoy music and other performing arts (I play the piano and I love to dance – I’ve been in the Nutcracker 6 times!). I played Select soccer, and I now swim competitively with several of my friends. Participating in extracurricular academic competitions (such as the Science Olympiad and various science fairs) is something I’ve always valued being able to do. I look forward to this new adventure!



## **Alexandra Schmidt**



I am in 11th grade and I attend Three Rivers Christian School. I am excited and nervous about what lays ahead for this upcoming year. This trip to Greenland is a launching point for a year filled with great things. I am an athlete. I play both volleyball and basketball. I will also be serving as a Lieutenant Governor for Washington Key Club division #42. All of these activities promise to keep me busy this year, while I also choose a university to attend, so that I may continue my education. I feel very privileged to be given this opportunity, to expand my knowledge in science while also strengthening my mathematic skills.

### **Shelly F. Hynes, M.S.**

Hi! I'm the 2011-2012 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow at the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs (NSF-OPP). Each year NSF-OPP selects a new fellow to lead the next JSEP program. Before becoming an Einstein Fellow I taught Physics and Astronomy at the Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts in Natchitoches, LA for 10 years. I have a B.S. in Physics from Northwestern State University and an M.S. in Applied Physics from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. My recent research has focused on observations of variable stars particularly eclipsing binaries. The Einstein Fellowship and JSEP has been an amazing program for me and I look forward to working with 6 incredibly talented young women.



### **Lynn Foshee Reed, M.S.**

I will be the 2012-2013 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow at the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs. I am excited to be working with Shelly and the 6 students this summer, and I hope to get some great ideas as I begin planning for the 2013 JSEP! Currently, I am a mathematics instructor at Maggie L. Walker Governor's School in Richmond, Virginia, where I have taught since 1998. I teach AP Calculus AB and the dual enrollment courses, Calculus I and Multivariable Calculus. I earned my B.A. in Mathematics from the University of Evansville, and I hold both M.A. and M.S. in Mathematics from The Ohio State University. I have strong interests in international studies and the history of mathematics, and I plan to focus next year on mathematical modeling in order to leverage my fellowship experiences for the mathematics classroom.