

Letters to a Pre-Scientist

Classroom Sponsorship Package

Dear Professional,

Middle school students in low-income communities often lack access to high-quality science education. Additionally, many students don't feel they belong in STEM because they don't fit the stereotypical scientist so often portrayed by the media. We believe these factors contribute to the significant underrepresentation of students from low-income communities in STEM careers. The Draw-A-Scientist Test, a measure of stereotypes about science, shows that 79% of US students draw white, male scientists; girls at age 6 draw female scientists 70% of the time, but 10 years later they draw male scientists 70% of the time. Most students draw Chemists wearing lab coats.

Students cannot aspire to careers they don't know exist. Without intervention, many students from low-income communities are excluded from the economic opportunities and career prospects STEM careers offer. At Letters to a Pre-Scientist (LPS), we're working to breakdown harmful stereotypes about what scientists look like and do at work because we believe every student, no matter where they were born or live, what they look like, or how much money their family has, deserves to feel they are valued and belong in STEM.

We're seeking donations to support our pen pal program. EdWeek reported that 92% of teachers found it more challenging to meet the needs of students from low-income families during school closures. Nearly all of our schools are still virtual, meaning authentic, engaging STEM experiences that can be facilitated electronically are extremely important right now, and we're ready to deliver! Will you join our worldwide network of educators, STEM professionals, and activists dedicated to empowering all students to see themselves as future scientists?

Letters to a Pre-Scientist is a pen pal program facilitated by science teachers that pairs 5th - 10th grade students in low-income communities with STEM professional volunteers from around the world. Our program is an innovative opportunity for students to gain real-world STEM experience during school, creating a more robust pipeline of students to STEM careers. This year, we serve 1000+ students in 20 US classrooms. [Peak into a Letter Opening Party!](#)

Thank you for your time. In this packet, you'll find information about our model and the impact of our program, as well as details about how your donation will be used. Email lucy.madden@prescientist.org with questions!

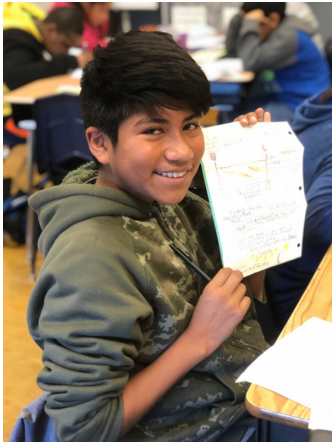
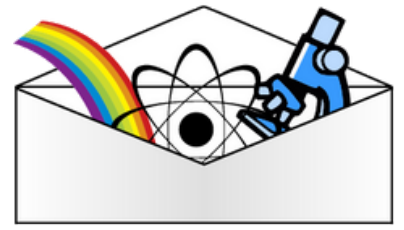
With gratitude,

Lucy Madden

Chief Executive Officer

Letters to a Pre-Scientist

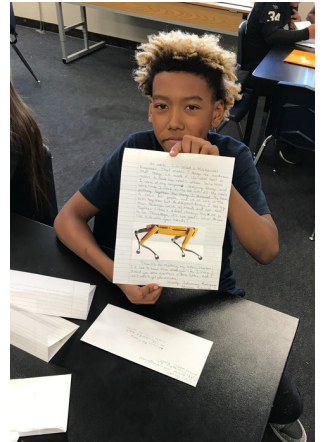
Using the power of human connection,
Letters to a Pre-Scientist demystifies
STEM careers and empowers all students
to see themselves as future scientists.



Young people cannot aspire to careers they do not know exist.

"I used to think that scientists were only people who worked with chemicals and exploding beakers, but now I know that scientists work with many more things than that, such as working with animals or working with space."

-6th grade pre-scientist



To broaden their awareness of who belongs in STEM, students need counterexamples to pervasive stereotypes about scientists.

Our network of 2,000+ STEM professional pen pals:

Represent all major branches of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

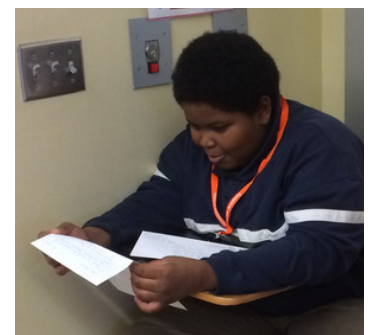
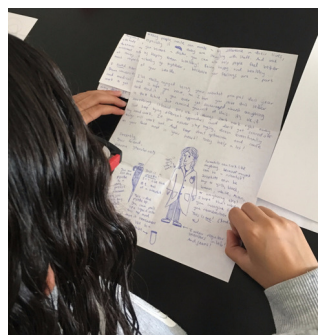
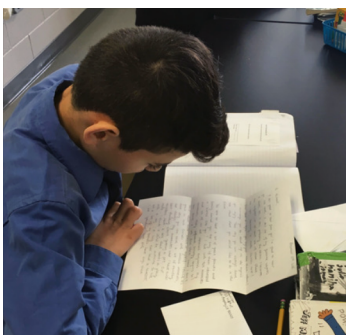
Speak 65 languages. Pairs have corresponded in English, Spanish, Arabic, Farsi, and Vietnamese.

Live in all 50 states, 3 US territories & 44 countries on 6 continents!

75% identify as female, and 30% identify with a race or ethnicity other than White.

"I used to think it isn't common for a girl to become a scientist, but now I know anyone can become a scientist if you put your heart into it."

-6th grade pre-scientist



Partnership Details

All sponsors will be featured on our website, social media, and in our newsletter, which together reach over 10,000 people monthly.

We're seeking mission-aligned corporations and organizations to support our 2020-21 pen pal program in schools across the US. We aim to support our partners' outreach and giving goals, and therefore our partnerships are customizable. Low time-commitment, high-impact remote or in-person employee volunteer opportunities are available.

SPONSOR -A- SCHOOL \$4,200

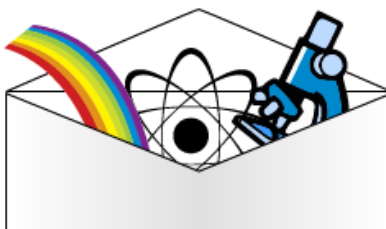
Our teachers teach between 25 and 160 students. We work with every student a teacher is responsible for because we believe high-quality educational opportunities should be available to all students. Sponsor the equivalent of every student's participation in our pen pal program for a year, including >500 letters.

- We provide our program to schools at no cost. Funds support classroom materials such as stamps and envelopes.
- Our program is run remotely to ensure we reach the students who need it most. Funds support online communication platforms.
- We hold our program implementation to high standards. Funds support our Program Manager and trainings for STEM professionals and teachers.
- Student and STEM professional data privacy is important to us. Funds support our secure, user-friendly database.

Contact Lucy Madden at lucy.madden@prescientist.org for more information!

Checks should be made out to Pre-Scientist, Inc and mailed to
7901 Carroll Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912

Pre-Scientist, Inc. is an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Our EIN # is 83-0818098.



www.prescientist.org