



NATIONAL SPACE DESIGN COMPETITION

StellarXplorers National Finals: Meet the Teams Heading to Houston

Congratulations to the ten teams advancing to the StellarXplorers IX National Finals Competition! Below is an introduction to each of the teams.



***Ratatoing* / Edmond North High School AFJROTC**

Edmond, OK

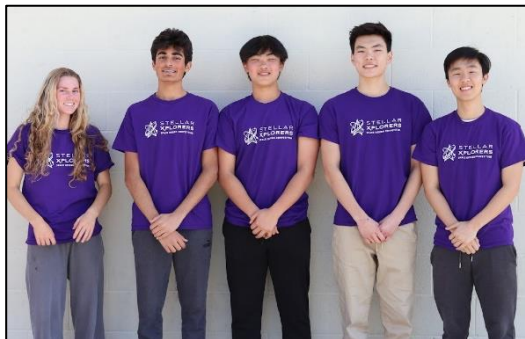
Kean Moise (Captain) - 12th grade
Aidan Huskey - 12th grade
Naomi Williams - 12th grade
Christina Ge - 12th grade
Sophia Brentlinger - 12th grade
Billy Sweiger - 12th grade



***Flying Tigers* | North Allegheny High School AFJROTC**

Pittsburgh, PA

Conor Griffin (Captain) - 11th grade
Dean Simon - 12th grade
Jacob Collins - 11th grade
Kylie Walk - 11th grade
Charlie Pallerino - 12th grade
Liz Franklin - 9th grade



***Party Penguins* / Palos Verdes Peninsula HS**

Rolling Hills Estate, CA

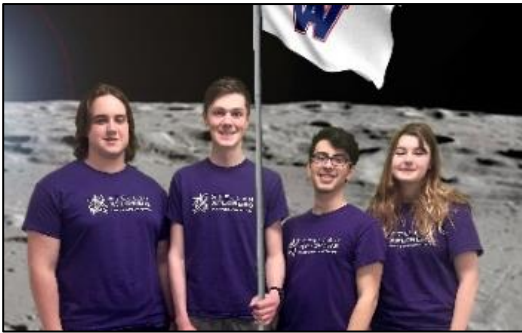
Jeremy Kim (Captain) - 12th grade
Maile Frankwick - 12th grade
William Huang - 12th grade
Jacob Ma - 10th grade
Erin Munz - 12th grade
Anish Anand - 9th grade



***Panthers #3* / Palos Verdes Peninsula HS**

Rolling Hills Estate, CA

Karry Cui (Captain) - 12th grade
Brian Zhang - 12th grade
Zishi Li - 12th grade
Kyle Jiang - 12th grade
Yifan Gu - 12th grade
Bobby Yuan - 12th grade



***Blackhawks* / West Aurora High School**

Aurora, IL

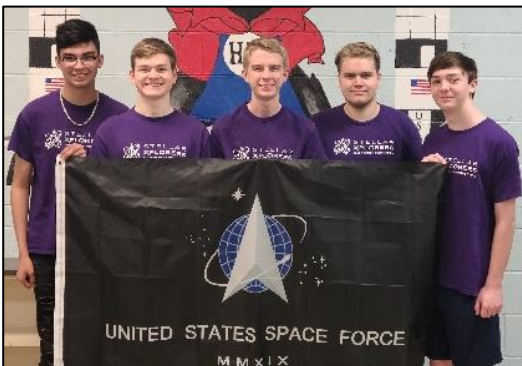
Ethan Kautzky (Captain) - 12th grade
Sean McGinnis - 10th grade
Myra Redfern - 12th grade
Andrew Weinart - 12th grade



***Pulsars* / The Science Academy STEM Magnet**

North Hollywood, CA

Sean DeHaeseleer (Co-Captain) - 12th grade
Michael Tadros (Co-Captain) - 12th grade
James Needham - 12th grade
Caleb Camp - 12th grade
Sasha Koldubaeva - 10th grade
Harry Kim - 10th grade



***Space Panthers* / Huntsville High School SFJROTC**

Huntsville, AL

DJ Fisher (Captain) 11th grade
Joseph McCallion - 12th grade
Shepard Howley - 11th grade
Ayden Taylor - 12th grade
Wes Headrick - 12th grade



***121 Rooks* / Maj. Thomas B. McGuire Composite Squad.**

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ

Daniel Clayton (Captain) 12th grade
Ben Clayton - 12th grade
Jadon Domenech - 8th grade
Michael Domenech - 12th grade
Will Weisgarber - 8th grade
Alexander King - 10th grade



***The Mighty Dunks* / Valencia High School AFJROTC**

Valencia, CA

Micaela Baljet (Captain) - 11th grade
 Katie Lien - 11th grade
 Sean Dezell - 10th grade
 Richard Marquez - 12th grade
 Emma Buliga - 10th grade
 Caleb Baek - 10th grade



***Stargazers* / San Pedro High School**

San Pedro, CA

Shelby Mancía (Captain) - 11th grade
 Shane Rowley - 10th grade
 Red Francis - 11th grade
 Alana Samuel - 11th grade

The final round of the season is set for April 20-22, 2023, at the Space Center Houston in Houston, TX. Teams will have 8-hours to find the best solution to the most challenging competition round yet. They will also be required to present their solutions to a panel of industry experts. Winners will be crowned at the Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 22.

In Houston, teams will meet with local industry representatives while getting a tour of their facility. They'll also be spending time exploring Space Center Houston including seeing a flown SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, checking out an interactive exhibit highlighting NASA's Artemis program, and taking a private tram tour through the Johnson Space Center.

Follow along to get a behind-the-scenes look at the **#STLXfinals**



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STELLARCAMPS



Looking for STEM programs to offer students during the summer? Look no further!

Organizations interested in hosting a space-focused summer camp can now register to host a StellarCamp. The full camp curriculum is available for purchase (\$300 per week). The host can choose to conduct the camp in-person or virtually during any of the 12 weeks below:

June 5 – 9	July 3 – 7*	July 31 – Aug. 4
June 12 – 16	July 10 – 14	Aug. 7 – 11
June 19 – 23*	July 17 – 21	Aug. 14–18
June 26 – 30	July 24 – 28	Aug. 21 – 25

* Holiday falls during camp week

SPONSOR NEWS

Lockheed Martin Space: Summer Internship Opportunities



Do you see yourself working in Space? Lockheed Martin Space will soon be opening applications for summer 2023 high school internships and has reserved positions specifically for StellarXplorers!

Lockheed Martin's Space High School Internship Program is designed to provide current high school students the opportunity to work with real Lockheed

Martin scientists and engineers. Projects tackle complex challenges, advance scientific discovery, and deliver innovative solutions to help our customers keep people safe. To qualify for the program, you must be at least 16 years of age, enrolled in high school, and have a passion for STEM. Internships may be virtual or in-person depending on your location.

Lockheed Martin Space welcomed the pilot class of six StellarXplorers interns last summer. These students excelled in their roles, and each received and accepted offers for returning internships. Lockheed Martin Space is looking forward to adding additional StellarXplorers to the team for summer 2023. Hear directly from Lockheed Martin Space StellarXplorers interns about their experiences in the [August 2022 StellarXpress](#).

To learn more about careers with Lockheed Martin Space, please visit [Space Careers](#) webpage.

STEM RESOURCES

Join the StellarXplorers Alumni Network

The StellarXplorers Alumni Network is intended to connect program alumni with each other and with program sponsors and supporters from industry and academia. Within this group we'll share networking opportunities, available internships, job postings, and more!

This is a private group for past and present StellarXplorers participants. You must be at least 16 years of age to join, per LinkedIn account regulations. All requests to join will be reviewed by StellarXplorers staff to verify participation in the program.

To join, visit: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12721859/>



OP-ED: When it comes to space, failure isn't just an option — it's a requirement By Rick Tumlinson

Sometime next month, SpaceX will likely try to launch the largest rocket ship ever flown, known as the Starship. If successful, this flight will herald a new space age, as humanity opens the solar system. This begs the question: Will it fail or will it succeed? And if it fails, what will it mean?

Anyone familiar with [space movies](#), or who has visited a NASA gift shop, knows the phrase "Failure is not an option." Actually, it is. In truth, if one is to win at anything, failure is a requirement. We only learn *by what we learn* from making mistakes. That is if — and this is an important "if" — we accept the learning we gain from the failure and apply it to our future endeavors. The exploration and development of space are no exception. Or rather, they highlight the rule.

Continue reading here: [In spaceflight, failure isn't just an option — it's a requirement | Space](#)

SPACE NEWS

In case you missed it...

17 MAR 2023 | [Newly discovered 'mini-Neptune' may have an ocean or an atmosphere - but not for long](#)

19 MAR 2023 | [The early universe was crammed with stars 10,000 times the size of our sun, new study suggests](#)

20 MAR 2023 | [Two moons of Uranus may have active subsurface oceans](#)

22 MAR 2023 | [US Space Force wants to test how to build satellites in orbit with \\$1.6 million Arkisys deal](#)

23 MAR 2023 | [UAE's 1st long-duration astronaut marks the start of Ramadan in space](#)

26 MAR 2023 | [NASA selects solar physicist Nicola Fox as its new science chief](#)

27 MAR 2023 | [Black holes may be swallowing invisible matter that slows the movement of stars](#)

3 APR 2023 | [Four for the moon! NASA names Artemis 2 crew for 1st lunar mission since Apollo](#)

4 APR 2023 | [James Webb Space Telescope spies most ancient galaxies ever observed](#)

5 APR 2023 | [2 merging supermassive black holes spotted in early universe](#)

7 APR 2023 | [Zoom in on Mars like never before with this epic 3D map](#)

9 APR 2023 | [Barbies blasted with liquid nitrogen to test new method of moon dust cleanup](#)

12 APR 2023 | [Space debris problem spurs a bold change in US government regulations](#)

13 APR 2023 | [SpaceX Starship shines on pad ahead of 1st orbital launch](#)

Images from space:



[This image](#) shows just a portion of M55, the cluster as a whole appears spherical because the stars' intense gravitational attraction pulls them together. Hubble's clear view above Earth's atmosphere resolves individual stars in this cluster. Ground-based telescopes can also resolve individual stars in M55, but fewer stars are visible. (Image credit: NASA, ESA, A. Sarajedini (Florida Atlantic University), and M. Libralato (STScI, ESA, JWST); Image Processing: Gladys Kober)



A full-sized wide shot of Uranus captured by the James Webb Space Telescope on Feb. 6, 2023 shows six of the planet's 27 known moons. (Image credit: NASA, ESA, CSA, STScI, J. DePasquale (STScI))

[James Webb Space Telescope captures stunning photo of Uranus and its rings | Space](#)

JUST FOR FUN

New Lego Ideas 'Tales of the Space Age' set creates out-of-this-world displays



The next Lego set to celebrate humanity's fascination with the cosmos uses the toy bricks to capture the visual style that inspired exploration.

["Tales of the Space Age," Lego Ideas set no. 21340](#), was announced Wednesday (April 12), on the 62nd anniversary of the [first human spaceflight](#) and 42 years after the first [space shuttle](#) launch. The simple but engaging set of four postcard-size space artworks is scheduled to go on sale to Lego VIP members on May 5 and for all at Lego Stores and on the company's online shop on May 8 for \$49.99. [Click to Read More](#)

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