



BANNEKER INSTITUTE

Banneker Institute's summer program is a ten-week, full-time summer research and study experience created to prepare talented undergraduate students of color and other underrepresented groups for studies in top graduate programs in astronomy.

PROGRAM

Banneker and its partner program Aztlán are together committed to addressing the underrepresentation of people of color, women, latinxs, indigenous, and disabled populations in astronomy particularly and the physical sciences generally. Undergraduates who have demonstrated a commitment to research and an interest in astronomy are given the opportunity for practical experience connecting their undergraduate studies, future graduate research, and eventual careers in astronomy and related fields.

ACTIVITIES

RESEARCH

Students work alongside faculty and postdoctoral advisors to complete a longterm research project culminating in a final presentation open to the CfA community. They also earn experience with solving astronomical problems using observational studies, theoretical investigations, and the development of new instrumentation.

SOCIAL JUSTICE EDUCATION

An extensive review of literature related to social and racial justice generally, with emphasis on the history of science and institutional prejudice. These are crucial in arming students with the information and confidence they need to carry themselves through graduate school and on to faculty positions in astronomy and STEM sciences.

PROGRAM DATES

2017 Summer Program

Start Date: June 5, 2017

Final Date: August 11, 2017

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Students take on graduate-level course and a comprehensive set of **computer skills** (UNIX command line, Python, data analysis) and **astronomy skills** (order of magnitude, Virial theorem, stellar scaling relations). In addition, the program emphasizes public speaking training with weekly sessions; professional career coaching; GRE preparation; and assistance with graduate school applications.

EXTRAS

Presentations by eminent guest speakers and topical discussions related to professional and personal development, including working in diverse teams, communication styles, navigating difficult conversations, finding study groups, and building scientific collaborations. Students also reconvene for poster presentations at the Annual Meeting for the American Astronomical Society (AAS).

CONTACTS

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ATTEND AAS ANNUAL MEETING

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

SUMMER STIPEND

HOUSING

The Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) is a world-renowned astrophysical institution providing a broad range of research in astronomy, astrophysics, and earth and space sciences carried out by an ever diverse group of researchers and scientists who work on the cutting edge of new discovery and new technologies.



HARVARD UNIVERSITY