



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.

The Letters to a Pre-Scientist pen pal program is facilitated by science teachers and pairs 5th - 10th grade students 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.

We're seeking donations to support our pen pal program, which we provide free of charge in schools in low-income communities. During the 2021-22 school year, we aim to get back to our pre-pandemic full capacity and serve 1650+ students in 25 US classrooms. Peek into a [Letter Opening Party!](#)

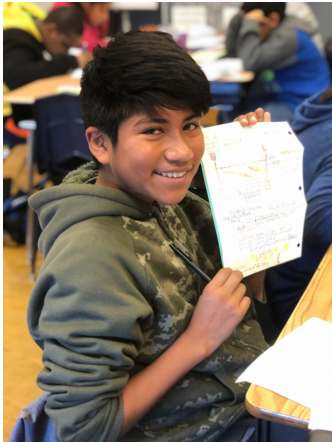
Will you join our worldwide network of educators, STEM professionals, and activists dedicated to empowering all students to see themselves as future scientists?

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](mailto:lucy.madden@prescientist.org) with questions!

With gratitude,

Lucy Madden  
Chief Executive Officer  
Letters to a Pre-Scientist

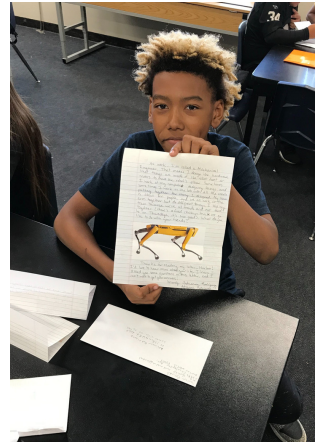
Using the power of human connection,  
Letters to a Pre-Scientist demystifies  
STEM careers and empowers all students to  
see themselves as future scientists.



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 3,000+ STEM professional pen pals:

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

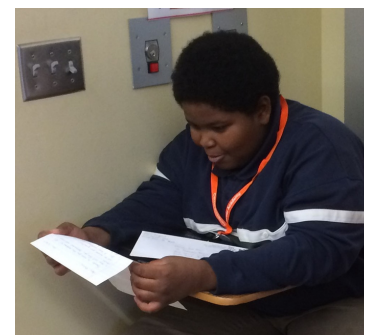
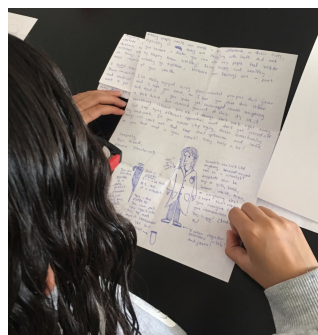
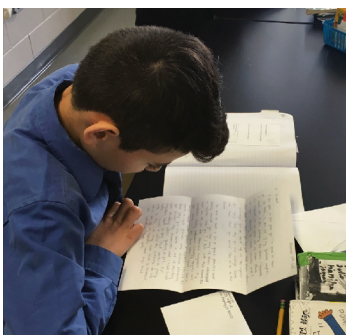
Speak 65  
languages. Pairs  
have corresponded  
in English, Spanish,  
Arabic, Farsi, and  
Vietnamese.

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 2021-22 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-  
CLASSROOM  
\$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](mailto: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.



Letters to a  
**PRE-SCIENTIST**

[www.prescientist.org](http://www.prescientist.org)