Sam Christian and Miguel Liu-Schiaffini 2108 Wright St. Austin, TX 78704 02/10/2020

Dear	Senator	
Dear	Schator	•

We are high school students and science enthusiasts who created an organization that aims to emphasize the importance of funding for science, particularly that of space and particle physics, in the future. We recognize that funding for space exploration and fundamental physics is an often forgotten issue in the face of more tangible issues to our well-being, such as gun rights and health care. Yet we should not forget that scientific advancements have brought humanity from the slums of past ages to the modern day, where cell phones and vaccines are quotidian parts of our lives.

Beginning in the 1950s and 1960s, the United States government <u>increased funding</u> to NASA. As a result, we put the first person on the moon and helped develop the International Space Station (ISS), a joint project involving several space agencies. With increased funding, NASA would be able to further explore the possibility of establishing colonies on Mars and the Moon. Scientists would be able to investigate the possibility of mining asteroids, which can contain more raw resources than those found on Earth. Creating solar collectors in space gives us access to the most powerful energy source in the solar system--the sun. Funding the exploration of space has the potential to improve the quality of life for all Americans.

Increasing the NASA budget also empowers scientists, who can use their funds to test theories about the universe we live in. These issues might seem unimportant to an American's well-being. Yet virtually all modern advances depend on the theories of fundamental physics formulated in past centuries. Take the theory of special relativity. While most references to this theory come in the context of exotic objects like supermassive black holes and galaxies, GPS, phone communication systems (3G, 4G, 5G, etc.), and nuclear energy all depend on the formulation of this theory. Who knows what new advancements may come as a result of new scientific theories?

With your support to help fund science research in this country, we can leave our mark on this country's history. Please consider supporting increasing NASA funding in the future, and encourage others to visit our website, http://scienceisthefuture.org/, to help make a lasting impact.

Many thanks for your time,

Miguel L. and Sam C. http://scienceisthefuture.org/