

# WCSD NEWS



## JJHS Graduate Named Brooke Owens Fellow

John Jay High School 2019 graduate Carly Schneider was named a Brooke Owens Fellow this year, and will soon depart for Long Beach, CA to begin an internship in the Material Engineering department at Relativity Space. Carly is currently studying Industrial Engineering at Western New England University.

Created to honor the legacy of Dawn Brooke Owens, a beloved space industry pioneer and accomplished pilot, the Fellowship is “designed to serve both as an inspiration and as a career boost to capable young women and other gender minorities who, like Brooke, aspire to explore our sky and stars, to shake up the aerospace industry, and to help their fellow people here on planet Earth,” according to the Fellowship Program. It matches students with purpose-driven, paid internships at leading aerospace companies and with executive-level mentors. Carly is one of only 51 Fellows this year, chosen from among over 1000 applicants worldwide.

Carly first took engineering courses as part of Project Lead The Way (PLTW), a specialized engineering curriculum offered at John Jay High School. It was there that she discovered a love for

Industrial Engineering. “I enjoy making things run more efficiently, whether within a company or a city bus system!” she said. “I am interested in the movement of people, and I do not believe that the atmosphere should be the stopping point for most humans.”

Carly considers Principles of Engineering teacher Tad Herman a key mentor: he recognized her anxiety among what she called “superstar science students,” and did not let her be derailed by fear. “The PLTW teachers saw students that might not fit the ‘science kid’ mold--and they helped us thrive,” Carly said. “I wasn’t the strongest science student, but they were great at spotting potential and keeping that flame alive. I am so thankful to my teachers: if not for them, I might not have believed in myself enough to even consider engineering!” Carly is especially grateful to Mr. Herman, Mr. Freedman, Mr. Butler, and Mr. Sonntag, but she noted that almost every teacher at John Jay had a positive impact on her.

In her application, Carly wrote, “I want to use my work in the aerospace industry to help students understand the fundamentals of space. Too often, space is looked at as a place where only the smartest can go, inaccessible to the ‘average Joe.’ I want my work to peel back that layer of misunderstanding and mystery to reveal a generation of thinkers who are not afraid to investigate the sky!”



JJHS graduate Carly Schneider is completing her Junior year at Western New England University.

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**BROOKE OWENS  
FELLOWSHIP**