

# GEOFORCE MONTHLY

Changing lives since 2005



Photo of Lainie Stone in front of Miller Library at Colby College.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: LAINIE STONE

This month we would like to highlight Kathryn "Lainie" Stone, a GeoFORCE alumna who will be joining us this summer as a counselor! Lainie was part of the Houston cohort as a high schooler and graduated from the GeoFORCE program in 2021. She remained involved with the program before heading to college by attending and presenting at the 2021 AGU (American Geophysical Union) Fall Conference and participating in the Math and Science Institute. Lainie is currently pursuing a bachelor's in geology at Colby College in Waterville, Maine.

Being a GeoFORCE student introduced Lainie to geosciences and made her realize that it was something she wanted to pursue in college. Throughout her time in GeoFORCE, she met professionals within the field which provided insight as to what kind of jobs would be available after college. This showed her how many different facets of geosciences exist.

Through the GeoFORCE 12th Grade Symposium, which allows students to conduct a research for week, develop a research poster, and present in front of research scientists who rank the top three posters, Lainie attended AGU's Fall Conference.

"The AGU conference was definitely a standout memory for me," Lainie said. "Getting to experience the conference and connect with so many professionals about a common interest was incredibly motivating and rewarding. It felt like all of my hard work in the summer academies and on my final project had paid off and given me a glimpse into what my life could be like in the future."

The summer leading into Lainie's senior year of high school, she was nominated by GeoFORCE for the Posse scholarship, which matched her to Colby College, giving her the opportunity to go there for her undergrad. "College was a big adjustment, especially being so far from home," Lainie said. "But I always think about what I want for my future self and that, as well as thinking about all of the hard work that went into me being where I am today, keeps me motivated."

If Lainie could give one piece of advice to current GeoFORCE students, she would encourage them to embrace their time with the program. "GeoFORCE, especially your first summer, can seem intimidating, like too-much information all at once, or just very unfamiliar," Lainie said. "But if you lean into it, know that the people around you are there to help you and want you to succeed, and have fun with it, it can be some of the best experiences of your life. I know I will never forget my summers as a GeoFORCE student."



Lainie presenting at AGU 2021 Fall Conference. Her group's poster "Transforming Terrestrial Planets" explored the resources and characteristics of a fictional exoplanet with the goal of supporting life on this planet in the future.

# ALUMNI RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

Here are a few opportunities open to GeoFORCE alumni!

## POST-BACC FELLOWSHIP IN CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:

The UC Irvine Climate Justice Initiative and Research Justice Shop are recruiting six recent college graduates interested in climate change, environmental justice, & community-engaged research for a one-year paid postbaccalaureate training program (Program Dates: September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024).

The program will center on:

- Hands-on training in climate change research skills
- Courses and workshops on community-engaged research practices and environmental justice
- Research projects co-designed with community partners
- Tailored professional development & career training
- Guidance by a diverse network of mentors

The recorded info session for this post-bacc is available [here](#)

Applications are due May 31, 2023 and are available at: <https://recruit.ap.uci.edu/JPF08177>

For more information email Kathleen Johnson at [kathleen.johnson@uci.edu](mailto:kathleen.johnson@uci.edu) and make sure to mention GeoFORCE!

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW POSITION OR OPEN TO LEARNING ABOUT NEW POSITIONS IN ANY FIELD?**

**PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SURVEY**

In doing so, you are giving GeoFORCE Texas permission to share your resume and contact information with employers!!

**WANT TO STAY CONNECTED WITH GEOFORCE?**

You'll get to know about in-person campus events, college and career resources, and have input on how GeoFORCE keeps alumni connected this coming year and on!

**CLICK THIS SURVEY**

GeoFORCE Texas is an outreach program through The University of Texas at Austin's Jackson School of Geosciences that introduces high school students from underserved communities to STEM and geoscience careers through summer field experiences, corporate mentoring, and college guidance. In 2015, our program was honored with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring—the highest such honor from the United States government. More information can be found on our website at <https://www.jsg.utexas.edu/geoforce/>.

## GRADUATE PROGRAM IN EARTHQUAKE SCIENCE AND HAZARDS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

The University of Oregon has up to two openings at the master's or Ph.D. levels in the broad fields of earthquake science and earthquake hazards at the Department of Earth Sciences for Fall 2023.

Graduate students in the program are supported (stipend and tuition) by a combination of teaching or research assistantships. The deadline for applications is May 30th. To apply, please visit their [website](#) and submit your application along with your transcripts, letters of recommendation, and a statement of purpose. Application fee waivers are available upon request.

If you have any questions, feel free to email GeoFORCE alumnus and current Ph.D. Candidate of the program Sean Santallanes ([sean.sants@gmail.com](mailto:sean.sants@gmail.com)), or Professors Valerie Sahakian ([vjs@uoregon.edu](mailto:vjs@uoregon.edu)) and Diego Melgar ([dmelgarm@uoregon.edu](mailto:dmelgarm@uoregon.edu))

# IMPORTANT DATES

Here are a list of dates to keep in mind for **May** and **June**:

MAY						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JUNE						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Current Students

Alumni

Summer Academies

<b>May 3rd</b> - Virtual Orientation	<b>June 4th - 10th</b> - Southwest 9 & Austin 10 Academies
<b>May 16th</b> - Summer Staff Orientation	<b>June 18th - 24th</b> - Austin 9 & Houston 10 Academies
	<b>June 25th - July 1st</b> - Southwest 10 & Southwest 11 Academies

## STAY CONNECTED WITH GEOFORCE THIS SUMMER!

Make sure you don't miss out on any of the events going on this summer, internship opportunities, or school year events!

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