Name: Kaile Wang, Junior(11)

Hobbies: Physics, Badminton, Table tennis, Skiing, Listening to music, League of Legends

Clubs: Physics Club, Chess Club, Table Tennis Club

Contest/Competition Experience: US Physics Team (2023); USAPhO (2023); AIME qualifier(2022)

Autobiography:

Since I was a child, I had an insatiable curiosity about the world around me, but it was in fifth grade that I discovered the language that could explain it: physics. My curiosity was piqued by a children's book on Albert Einstein, an outcast who unlocked the mysteries of the universe by thinking outside the box. Enthralled by his ideas, I begged my parents to buy me my first physics textbook and immersed myself in it as if it were a gripping novel.

Middle school only reinforced my love for physics. I can still remember the sense of awe I felt when my seventhgrade teacher demonstrated the seemingly magical property of magnets repelling and attracting each other. The invisible forces at work fascinated me and spurred me to delve deeper into the subject, not for the grades, but for the pure joy of understanding. I would stay up late, solving problem after problem, each one a thrilling puzzle.

I was first drawn to the world of physics through my own experiences with the world around me — water boiling in a kettle, a magnet attracting a paperclip, or the spinning wheels of my toy car. From these daily observations, my interest grew, transforming from a childhood curiosity into a genuine passion. Throughout my participation in the school science fairs, and junior high physics lessons, I began to apply names and theories to phenomena that I had observed and pondered for years.

In the eighth grade, my older brother introduced to our family dinner the perplexing puzzle of a ball sliding down an inclined plane. This sparked hours of lively debate and deep contemplation, permanently igniting my fascination with the intricacies of physics. Initially, my foray into the world of competitive physics was marked by trials and tribulations, with many problems seeming impenetrable. Nevertheless, driven by my passion, I persevered. Gradually, the mysteries of the physical world started unveiling themselves. I was able to calculate the kinematics of a wide array of objects — from cars and spinning tops to oscillating pendulums and planets in elliptical orbits. The world took on a new lucidity that fed my growing love for physics.

My love of problem solving and my desire to understand the universe merged into a deep passion for physics. This passion, which I hope to further cultivate and share with others, has been an integral part of my journey. It was a huge honor to be selected for physics camp this summer. It provides an opportunity to refine my problemsolving skills, deepen my understanding of the universe, and interact with a dedicated community of physicists. I would like to thank my family and all the mentors who have guided and supported me in my relentless pursuit of physics. Their influence has been invaluable and I look forward to the new challenges and learning ahead.