



# SOLAR CAR CHALLENGE FOUNDATION



*2019 Solar Car Teams on display at the Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, Texas*

I want to thank you for your interest in the Solar Car Challenge, an international high school solar education program designed to help motivate students in Science, Engineering, and Alternative Energy. We would like to invite your support for 2019-2020.

Preliminary studies show that students taking part in the Solar Car Challenge are 23% more likely to enter a Science or Engineering Profession than other "similarly situated" high school students.

Forty-four teams registered to race in 2019; we are expecting a 25% registration growth in 2020. We need your support to keep pace with program and staff expansion. This letter is our official funding request.

## **2019 Solar Car Challenge Foundation Accomplishments**

As we reach the end of 2019, I want to thank you for all that you have done to help support the Solar Car Challenge. With your help, we were able to accomplish the following in 2019:

- 2019 Solar Car Challenge at the Texas Motor Speedway was the largest solar racing event in the Western Hemisphere. Eight Hundred Students, Teachers, and Staff traveled to Texas to share three days of “qualifying” and four days of racing at the Texas Motor Speedway.
- Six National Education Workshops designed to encourage Science, Engineering, and Alternative Energy. This is our primary education outreach for new and existing teams.
- Added two new states to the Solar Car Challenge (Ohio, Georgia). We now have solar car teams in thirty-eight states.
- Formed twenty-one new teams in preparation for the 2020 Solar Car Challenge, a closed-track race at the Texas Motor Speedway
- Eight Solar Car Teams took part in displays across the Metroplex helping support the 2019 NTREG Solar Tour
- Ten Solar Car Teams shared the value of STEM Education at EarthX
- Five Solar Car Teams displayed their vehicles at the NTCOG Electric Vehicle Project

## **New Cruiser Vehicle Division**

We introduced the new Cruiser Division in 2019. These unique cars demonstrate a realistic application of solar technology within a sedan-style vehicle. The Cruiser Division will carry four passengers with the solar arrays integrated into the body of the vehicle. This new vehicle will make its debut at the 2020 Race.



### **New “Race Qualifier” Introduced in 2020**

The 2020 closed-track race will consist of the three-day Scrutineering followed by the one-day **Stage One** Race Day. The top teams in each Solar Car Challenge Racing Division will move on to the three-day **Stage Two** Race.

The implementation of this two-stage process will make it possible for the Solar Car Challenge to open the door to far more schools.

### **Middle School Initiative**

We are continuing our outreach to younger students. The 2019-2020 Solar Car Challenge Education Program expands our Middle School Initiative designed to encourage greater interest in Science, Engineering, and Alternative Energy.

### **Technology Initiatives**

We are delighted to partner with Texas Instruments, Siemens, Lockheed Martin, and Motorola Solutions to provide technology support for the teams/students taking part in the 2020 Solar Car Challenge.

The Solar Car Challenge Technology Board continues to make great strides improving the software programs needed to track & score the race, as well as assist teams with telemetry.

### **I include the following documents for your review:**

- History of the Solar Car Challenge
- Budget for 2020
- 2020 Mission Statement
- Sponsorship Levels

Thank you for considering our proposal. I hope you will review our web site at <http://www.solarcarchallenge.org>. By the way, we have adapted to *social media* and have two well-viewed **Facebook** pages, a Twitter account, a YouTube channel, and periodic postings on LinkedIn and Instagram. Six thousand people follow the Solar Car Challenge on these media platforms.

All of our events are supported by a year-long education program highlighted by workshops, curriculum materials, on-site visits, mentoring, teaching materials, and

summer camps. The Solar Car Challenge Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization.

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