

PrepaTec CCM student represents Mexico at US science camp!



Fernando Sánchez from the Mexico City campus achieved his dream by being one of just two Mexicans at the 2024 National Youth Science Camp in the United States.

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Courtesy of Fernando Sánchez

Fernando Sánchez, an [International Baccalaureate](#) student at the [PrepaTec Mexico City](#) campus, was **one of just two Mexicans selected** to represent our **country** and the Tec at the **2024 [National Youth Science Camp](#)**, held in the forests of West Virginia, United States.

The fifth-semester student's eagerness to learn about how **the universe works** has grown since he was a child and led him to be one of the **students selected** for the camp which promotes young talents from the **United States and around the world**.

"I'm fascinated by learning new things and understanding how the world works."

“The moment I realized I was living the dream was one night when I was in bed and I was thinking, ‘Oh, I wonder what we’re going to do tomorrow,’ and it reminded me a lot of when I was a kid,” says Fernando.

“I’m fascinated by learning new things and understanding how the world works.”

About the National Youth Science Camp

The National Youth Science Camp (**NYS**Camp) is an **American camp** created for students who have proven **high academic abilities** and who have demonstrated **scientific leadership**.

Specifically, this must be reflected in the **awards** that students have **received**, as well as **recognition that they have been given in areas beyond science** and beyond their educational institution. In addition, they must also demonstrate a **high level of English** and have the **aspiration** to pursue **science-related careers** in the future.

Topics related to **artificial intelligence**, **renewable energy** (as well as its use in preventing climate change), **spatial relativity**, paleontology, and the role of **science** in a social, economic, and political context were discussed during the camp.

Areas of opportunity within the **field of science** and the **lack of funding** for this type of **research** were also addressed. On that point, our student highlighted studies on sloths from the pre-Jurassic period.



Fernando Sánchez representing Mexico at the National Youth Science Camp. Photo: courtesy of Fernando Sánchez

Ethics in a digital world

After his participation in the event, the Tec de Monterrey student returned reflecting on the **role of ethics** in **emerging sciences**, such as **artificial intelligence**. He pointed out the challenges that contemporary life brings with it, such as the possible **replacement** of some **current jobs**.

Fernando also stressed the **importance** of **creating technologies** that meet **humanity's needs**, rather than having **humanity adapt to them**.

*"It's about considering how we can make **new technology** work for **humanity** and not the other way around.*

*"I think that **there's a lot of art in science** and that there are **many people in science**."*

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Art as a bond

The camp not only delved into scientific topics, but also allowed the PrepaTec student to **form international ties**.

He describes how the connection between **Latin American customs** and the interest of **students from other places** in such cultures helped to **forge a strong bond** between everyone.

*“At this camp, it wasn’t just math, biology, and physics; **I learned a lot about people** and their different customs,”* he said.

The student advises others **not to be fearful** and to **embrace curiosity**, in order to leave their **comfort zone** and open the door to the opportunities that come their way.



Fernando Sánchez and Jorlen Moreno. Photo: courtesy of Fernando Sánchez

Fernando explains that it was this **courage in the face of uncertainty** that led him to **achieve a dream** and become **the person he is today**; he concludes his advice by highlighting his role as:

"A student of the universe."

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