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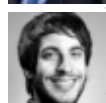
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Science & Innovation

By **Matthew Herper** and **Seline Jung**



Danielle Fong

DanielleFong

DalaiLama The creation of a more peaceful and happier society has to begin from the level of the individual.

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ycombinator Also congrats to @8en @_dave @danicgross

4: @solomonstre @anson_tsai @ericfrenkiel @JessicaMah - too many alumni in the lists for one tweet!

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1: ycombinator Congrats YC alumni @jakemintz @joshbuckley @kn0thing @soundboy @drewhouston @ryanamos @drusenko and partner @harjeet on Forbes 30 under 30!

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DalaiLama Appreciate how rare and full of potential your situation is in this world, then take joy in it, and use it to your best advantage.

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- **Daniela Witten**
- 27
- Assistant Professor
- University of Washington
- [Success Is In Daniela Witten's DNA](#)
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The daughter of two string theorists, Daniela Witten says she didn't go into the family business because she "wasn't smart enough." Instead she became a professor at 26, and is now developing artificial intelligence programs that decipher how genes lead to disease. Since 2000, the cost of sequencing a person's 6 billion DNA letters has dropped from \$2 billion to \$5,000. The result overwhelmed Scientists. Witten uses machine-learning programs like Google's and Facebook's to crunch the data.

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- 26
- Graduate Student
- Boston University

New ways to kill bacteria that hide dormant in killer biofilms in the body.



- [Rizia Bardhan](#)

- 29
- Postdoctoral Candidate
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



○

Nanotech particles that can diagnose or treat disease; new ways of storing energy.



- [Imre Bartos](#)

- 29
- Graduate Student
- Columbia University

Diverse dude: Not only studies black hole formation, but also the physics of mosquito eyes.



- [John Calarco](#)

- 29
- Bauer Fellow, FAS Center for Systems Biology
- Harvard University

Studies how different readouts of the same genetic code affect the development of the nervous system.



- [Moziyar Etemadi](#)

- 25
- Graduate Student, Department of Bioengineering & Therapeutic Sciences

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Developing a mobile device to detect pre-term labor in high-risk pregnancies and alert the physician via

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• [Jeremy England](#)

- 29
- Assistant Professor of Physics
- MIT



○

Studies the physics behind how proteins fold, cells develop, and other fundamental biological processes.



• [Christina Fan](#)

- 28
- Senior Scientist
- ImmuMetrix



○

Began work on a new, non-invasive test for Down syndrome.



• [James Fraser](#)

- 29
- QB3 Fellow
- University of California, San Francisco

Uses computation and biophysics to discover mutations that cause disease.



• [Chris Harrison](#)

- 26
- Graduate Student
- Carnegie Mellon University

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[Jeffrey Kidd](#)

- 28
- Assistant Professor, Department of Human Genetics
- University of Michigan.

Using DNA sequencing to understand what forces shape evolution in human beings and animals.



[Heather Knight](#)

- 28
- Chief Executive
- Marilyn Monrobot



○



○

Creating interactive theater using robotics.



[Raj Krishnan](#)

- 29
- Chief Executive
- CEO, Biological Dynamics, Inc.

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[Marc Lajoie](#)

- 26
- Graduate Student
- Harvard University



○



○

Powerful new methods to change many of an organism's genes at once could kick-start genome engineering.



[Uri Laserson](#)

- 28
- Founder
- Good Start Genetics



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DNA sequencing pioneer helped found company that tests parents for genetic diseases they might pass to their kids.



• [Albert Mach](#)

- 25
- Graduate Student
- UCLA

His centrifuge on a chip that could provide a rapid way to detect cancer via a blood test.



• [Ciara Metcalfe](#)

- 28
- Postdoctoral Fellow
- Genentech



○ Studying stem cell hidden in the intestine to search for new drugs for people.



• [Jean-Baptiste Michel](#)

- 29
- Visiting Faculty
- Google

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Generating new insights into the evolution of human language and culture by analyzing millions of books.



●

[Christopher Morgan & Leigh Anne Ihnken](#)

- 29, 29
- Research Scientists
- GlaxoSmithKline



○

Making pharmaceutical chemistry less expensive and less harmful to the environment.



●

[Sarah Ng](#)

- 27
- Graduate Student
- University of Washington



○

Use of DNA sequencing to find the genes that cause rare diseases.



●

[Bryan Parno](#)

- 29
- Researcher
- Microsoft

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[Steven T. Piantadosi](#)

- 27
- Postdoctorate Student, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences
- University of Rochester



○

Understanding the way human beings use an innate understanding of probability to grasp new or ambiguous concepts.



[Cary L. Pint](#)

- 29
- Research Scientist, Extreme Technologies Research Group
- Intel Corporation



○

Nanotube supercapacitors for creating high energy batteries.



[Christopher Rogan](#)

- 28
- Graduate Student
- Caltech

His research using the Large Hadron Collider test plumb fundamental balances between quantum particles.



[Jessie Rosenberg](#)

- 25
- Research Staff Member, Silicon Photonics Team

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○
Graduated college at 17; now uses optical technology to make faster, better computer chips.



● [David Simmons-Duffin](#)

- 27
- Graduate Student
- Harvard University



○
Theoretical physicist creating mathematical models of the similarity (dubbed supersymmetry) between quantum particles.



● [Ryan Tewhey](#)

- 29
- Graduate Student
- University of California, San Diego

Using DNA sequencing to figure out what makes the MRSA super-germ so very deadly and hard to kill.



● [Harris Wang](#)

- 28
- Wyss Fellow
- Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering

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Creating synthetic bacteria to study and combat human diseases in the digestive system and on the skin.



• [Christian Wentz](#)

- 25
- Founder
- Cerenova, Kendall Research



○ New ways to analyze brain data; founder, two biotechs.



• [Jodie Wu](#)

- 24
- Founder, Chief executive
- Global Cycle Solutions



○ Her company redesigns bicycles to thresh corn and do other agricultural jobs in rural Tanzania where electricity is scarce.

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**Steve Quake**

Stanford University

One of biotech's most prolific inventors sequenced his own DNA on a machine he created.

**Lisa Randall**

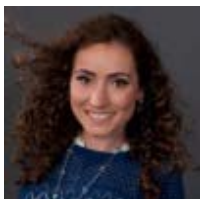
Harvard University

The physics icon's book, *Knocking on Heaven's Door*, explains today's physics and how science describes reality.**Eric Topol**

The Scripps Research Institute

Cardiologist and author of *The Creative Destruction of Medicine*, about genetics and wireless technology.

Video

**[Success Is In Daniela Witten's DNA](#)**

Crunching data on the road to curing cancer.

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Today's disruptors and tomorrow's brightest stars from biotech to astrophysics.

30 Under 30



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Billy Joel was right. Some of the most promising people throughout history checked out long before their time—a depressing number of them musicians.

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