



THE Innovation Ecosystem

Our Approach to
Cultivating Innovation in
the World Around Us



OUR FOUNDATION IS INNOVATION

We built our Innovation Ecosystem to introduce children to the invention process at an early age and to provide programs that cultivate a passion for innovation throughout adulthood.

Over the past 28 years, we have observed more than a million students complete our education programs, and we understand the importance of the invention process. The *process* is what inspires collaboration, encourages entrepreneurship, ignites creativity, exercises problem-solving skills, motivates design and builds an understanding that failure is a necessary point on the path to success.

With help from our Innovation Force™, a team of National Inventors Hall of Fame® (NIHF) Inductees turned superheroes, we are able to introduce children to successful inventors in a relevant and relatable way. According to research from the Equality of Opportunity Project, this early exposure has been proven to increase the chance for a child to be innovative in the future.¹

1 Bell, A., Chetty, R., Jaravel, X., Petkova, N., & Van Reenen, J. (December 2017). Who becomes an inventor in America? The importance of exposure to Innovation. DOI: 10.3386/w24062.



PRESCHOOL

Invention Playground® encourages preschoolers to discover their inner innovator through open-ended activities rooted in creativity and play. In this program, children experiment with sound, explore the properties of buoyancy and discover what it's like to be a chemist, veterinarian, architect and rocket scientist.



Camp Invention®

KINDERGARTEN - 6TH GRADE

Camp Invention® is a summer program that brings STEM concepts to life through real-world, hands-on challenges inspired by world-changing inventors. Middle, high school and college students are able to mentor participants through our Leaders-in-Training and Leadership Intern programs.



Club Invention®

1ST - 6TH GRADE

Club Invention® is an afterschool program that introduces students to essential STEM concepts using immersive hands-on activities inspired by NIHF Inductees. In this program, students design functional invention prototypes using the power of creative problem solving.



STEM Maker Lab®

1ST - 6TH GRADE

STEM Maker Lab® is a robust and flexible curriculum that is designed to meet a school's makerspace needs. Students problem-solve realistic challenges, design prototypes and practice the "idea-to-market" process that is critical for successful innovation.



Invention Project®

6TH - 9TH GRADE

Invention Project® is an afterschool or summer program that empowers students to both invent and bring their creations to market by using rapid prototyping, market research and entrepreneurial skills. High school and college students participate as role models through our Leadership Intern program.

ARE YOU READY TO BE A SUPERHERO FOR YOUR STUDENTS?

Learn how we can customize a program to meet the needs of your district. Our educational programs qualify for Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, 21st CCLC, Migrant Education and Early Learning Challenge funding, as well as state and local district resource funding.

ARE YOU A NIHF PARTNER LOOKING TO EXPAND YOUR PROGRAMMING?

Expand your programming by offering year-round STEM learning through our Innovation Ecosystem! We have a new makerspace product, as well as programs that can integrate in the classroom and provide hands-on, fun innovation education in an afterschool setting.

**Learn more by contacting us at
NIHFatmyschool@invent.org or
800.968.4332.**



National Inventors
Hall of Fame®



EDUCATION WITH

World-Changing Inventors



Radia Perlman
Robust Network Routing and Bridging
INDUCTED 2016

George Alcorn
X-Ray Spectrometer
INDUCTED 2015

Jaap Haartsen
Bluetooth® Wireless Technology
INDUCTED 2015

Stan Honey
Sports Broadcast Graphic Enhancements
INDUCTED 2018

Frances Ligler
Portable Optical Biosensors
INDUCTED 2017

Sumita Mitra
Nanocomposite Dental Materials
INDUCTED 2018