



National Inventors
Hall of Fame®

HONOR



INSPIRE

CHALLENGE



NIHF Inductee Sumita Mitra, inventor of Nanocomposite Dental Materials, making a visit to Camp Invention.

Our Mission

We believe our role as a Hall of Fame is to not only honor the individuals whose inventions have made the world a better place, but also ensure that American ingenuity continues to thrive in the hands of coming generations. This belief is what drives our mission: recognizing inventors and invention, promoting creativity and advancing the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship.

True to our mission, we are reinventing what a Hall of Fame can be and do. Instead of being defined by the past, we invest in the future. Instead of being confined to a brick-and-mortar museum, we bring creativity and invention to life in classrooms, curricula and competitions across the country.

In partnership with more than 3,000 schools and districts nationwide, we connect visionary inventors with the next generation, providing future leaders with the experiences and tools they need to realize their innovative potential.

We are the National Inventors Hall of Fame® (NIHF): the driving force behind lifelong innovation, paying forward America's rich history of invention and securing our country's competitive advantage for the future.



HONORING

the greatest innovators

NIHF was founded in 1973 in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office to honor the individuals who conceived, patented and advanced the greatest technological achievements of our nation. Our organization has evolved to become the nation's leading nonprofit providing invention education programs, competitions and events. We also continue to embody the traditional aspects of a Hall of Fame through our annual Induction Event and museum.



NIHF inductee Chieko Asakawa, inventor of the Home Page Reader, the first practical voice browser to provide effective internet access for blind and visually impaired computer users, at the Induction Event.

NIHF Museum

The NIHF Museum is the National Monument to Innovation®, offering unique exhibits that tell the inspiring stories of great inventors. Located on the campus of the United States Patent and Trademark Office headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, our museum invites visitors to explore more than 600 Inductees and their achievements through interactive kiosks and exhibits. Our rotating exhibitions highlight the current class of Inductees and include sponsored exhibits focused on the history and importance of intellectual property.

Induction Event

The annual NIHF Induction Event is the Greatest Celebration of American Innovation®, honoring the world's foremost inventors and their contributions to society. This reverent affair not only recognizes the outstanding achievements of United States patent holders but also brings them together with fellow innovators, intellectual property leaders and members of the public.

Each year, NIHF selects Inductees through a process that accepts nominations from all sources and relies on a panel of experts in the fields of science, technology, engineering and intellectual property to screen, vet and make final selections. The criteria for induction require candidates to hold a United States patent that has contributed significantly to the nation's welfare and the advancement of science and useful arts.



NIHF Inductee Carolyn Bertozzi, inventor of Bioorthogonal Chemistry, at the Induction Event.



NIHF Inductee James Truchard, co-inventor of Virtual Instrumentation—LabVIEW™, at the Illumination Ceremony.



NIHF Inductee Bill Warner, inventor of the Digital Nonlinear Editing System, at the Induction Event.

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I believe that inventing is the core creativity of humanity.

We are all in this together and we all invent to help other people. So encourage your peers, encourage your children, encourage yourself to join a great team – the invention team.

”

Bill Warner, 2019 NIHF Inductee
Digital Nonlinear Editing System



INSPIRING

future innovators

Developed in collaboration with our NIHF Inductees, our invention education programs are designed to impact young minds through fun, hands-on activities infused with the spirit of innovation. Hosted annually by more than 3,000 schools and districts nationwide and led by certified educators, these immersive enrichment programs promote STEM concepts, Intellectual Property Literacy® and 21st-century skills.

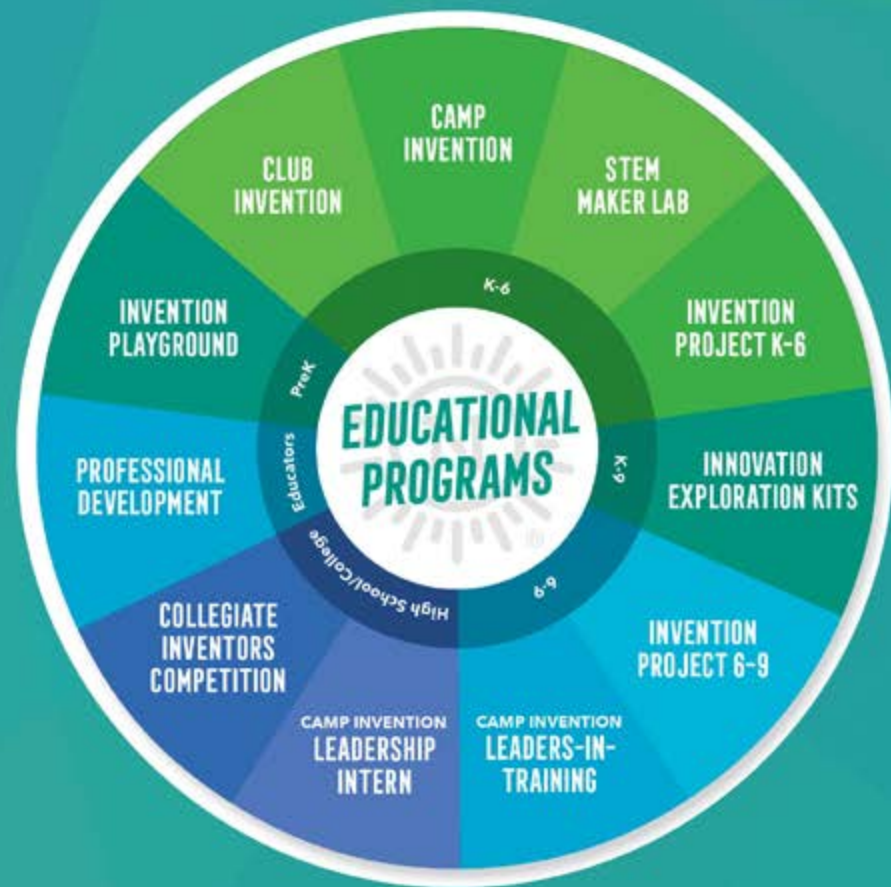
Each of our programs creates a supportive, collaborative learning environment where there are no wrong answers, empowering participants to build confidence in their natural ability to dream and create.

*All our education programs qualify for Title I, Title II, Title III, 21st CCLC, Migrant Education and Early Learning Challenge funding as well as state and local district resource funding.



NIHF Inductee Edmund O. Schweitzer III, inventor of the first microprocessor-based digital protective relay, making a visit to Camp Invention.

THE INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM



NIHF has been a leader in invention education for more than 30 years. As the only organization with a direct connection to insights from world-changing inventors, we have built a one-of-a-kind Innovation Ecosystem of STEM-based programs designed to engage young innovators and guide them to continue developing their curiosity and creativity throughout their lives.



Invention Playground®

Early STEM learning through open-ended play, offering in-person preschool experiences that introduce fundamental concepts, champion curiosity and promote self-discovery.

Invention Project® K-6

Immersive, cross-cutting K-6 curriculum providing hands-on invention education that aligns to standards, supports social-emotional learning and sparks imaginations through open-ended exploration of STEAM concepts in in-school, at-home and blended environments.

Camp Invention[®]

Nationally acclaimed STEM summer camp providing in-person and at-home learning opportunities that turn curious K-6 students into innovative thinkers by providing open-ended experiences that help them build confidence, persistence and problem-solving skills.



Club Invention[®]

Engaging, flexible afterschool STEM programs for grades 1-6, designed to explore a range of subjects and create immersive in-person and at-home learning environments that promote critical and creative thinking.



Innovation Exploration Kits[™]

Hands-on STEM activity kits packed with complete materials and step-by-step instructions for independent learning in grades K-9, offering accessible opportunities to encourage creativity and build 21st-century skills.

STEM Maker Lab[®]

Innovative, in-person makerspace experiences that lead students in grades 1-6 to explore entrepreneurial concepts and apply creativity, design engineering and prototyping skills to solve realistic, hands-on STEM challenges.

Invention Project® 6-9

Empowering, in-person STEM programming designed to engage students in grades 6-9, building confidence and entrepreneurship skills through real-world challenges that introduce lessons from inventors and explore the business of innovation.



Leadership Intern

Rewarding, in-person STEM education volunteer experience offering opportunities for high school and college students to gain leadership skills and build their resumes by mentoring children at Camp Invention and Invention Project 6-9.

Leaders-in-Training

One-of-a-kind, in-person leadership program providing students in grades 7-9 the chance to build confidence and goal-setting skills through creative STEM exploration while serving as mentors for younger children at Camp Invention.



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We recognize invention is much more than a eureka moment.

Invention is a process that requires collaboration, hands-on application of STEM, creative problem solving, entrepreneurship and an understanding that moments of failure are necessary on the path to success. We are committed to introducing future generations to this process, so they can dream, design and invent what's next.

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Michael J. Oister
CEO, National Inventors Hall of Fame

Collegiate Inventors Competition®

National competition providing innovative college students with opportunities to network, gain valuable exposure for their work, receive guidance from world-changing inventors and win cash and prizes.

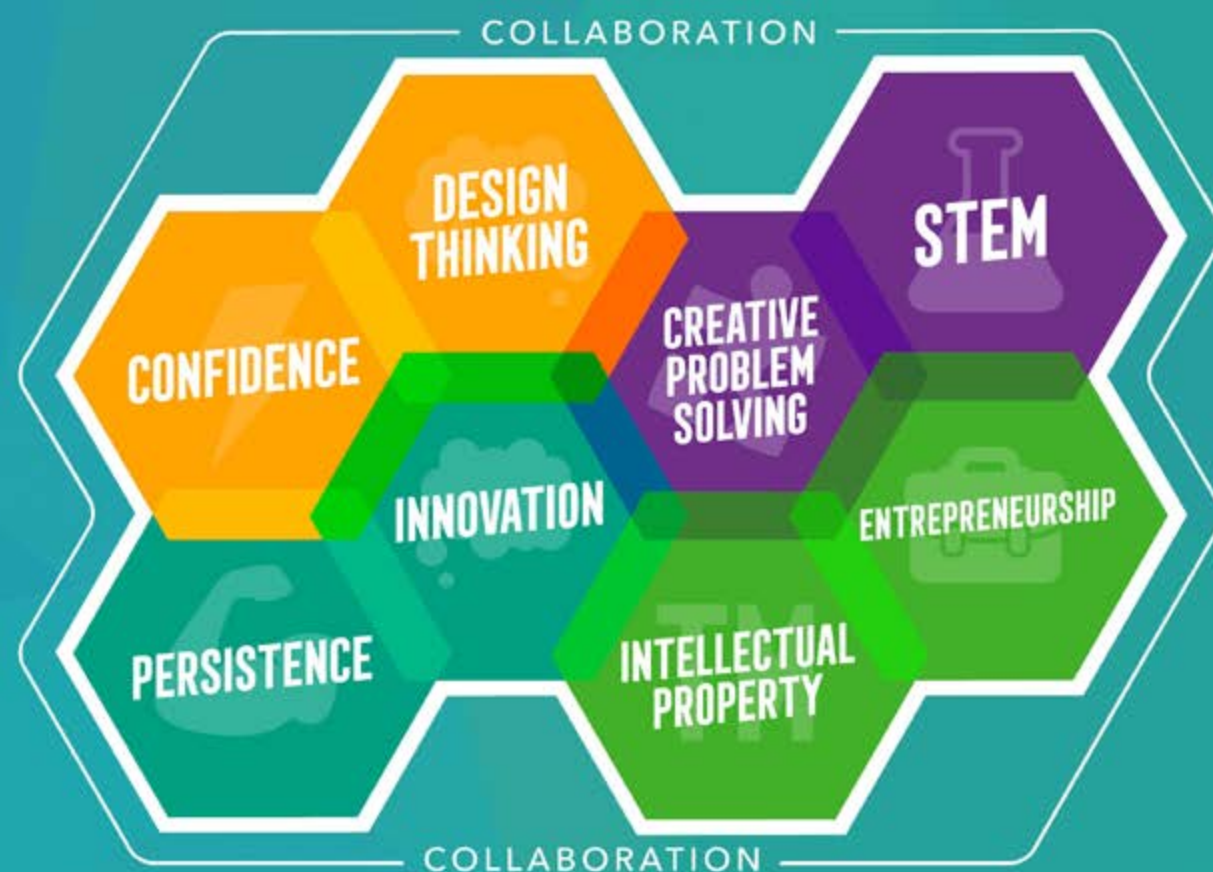


Professional Development

Customizable professional development workshops for educators, supporting invention education through interactive learning sessions, hands-on opportunities to apply the Innovation Mindset and proven strategies for fostering students' creativity and problem-solving skills.



THE INNOVATION MINDSET



Research shows that exposure to innovation substantially increases the chances that children will become innovators.* That's why we're dedicated to providing opportunities to interact with STEM concepts early and often.

Each of our programs is designed to help participants build the Innovation Mindset – a growth mindset infused with lessons from world-changing inventors – which will enable and empower them in any area of life.

The Innovation Mindset is made up of nine essential skills and traits that are strengthened each time a child applies them. By developing this mindset through open-ended, hands-on exploration, our programs guide children to unlock their full potential.

*A. Bell, R. Chetty, X. Jaravel, N. Petkova, and J. Van Reenen, *Who Becomes an Inventor in America? The Importance of Exposure to Innovation*. Opportunity Insights (2017).

CHALLENGING

today's innovators

The Collegiate Inventors Competition (CIC) was founded in 1990 to encourage and drive innovation and entrepreneurship at the collegiate level. The competition recognizes, rewards and provides networking opportunities for students engaged in cutting-edge research and innovation. With the help of our sponsors, we have awarded over \$1 million to the country's most creative college students.



2019 Collegiate Inventors Competition Winners

Finalist Impact

Finalists gather at the United States Patent and Trademark Office to present their research and prototypes to NIHF Inductees and intellectual property experts. This panel not only judges the Finalists' entries but also provides feedback and mentorship to take inventions to the next level. CIC Finalists also showcase their inventions to program sponsors, media representatives and the general public at the CIC Expo.



CIC Finalists receiving feedback from NIHF Inductee Victor Lawrence, Inventor of Signal Processing in Telecommunications.



Our Reach

By reaching out to students and faculty at more than 1,000 colleges and universities across the nation, CIC has received entries from Johns Hopkins University, MIT, Harvard, the University of California system and more. Entries include outstanding inventions in disciplines as varied as medical technology, biotechnology, nanotechnology, renewable energy, robotics and systems engineering.



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Our world is constantly changing and progressing, and in order to keep up with all of the different demands and changes in our society, we need to change the way we use products, interact with people, interact with our environment, and solve our health problems.

Invention is the gateway to solving these things.”

”

Nicole Black, Harvard University
2018 CIC Finalist

THANKS

to our sponsors

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The United States Patent and Trademark Office is proud to partner with the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

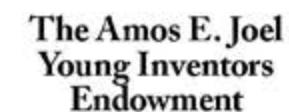
NIHF's unique programs inspire creativity, innovation, interest in STEM and Intellectual Property Literacy® in students, teachers and aspiring inventors nationwide. Our joint effort and investment in the future of American innovation set the stage for a skilled, vibrant workforce pipeline and our country's future success.

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Drew Hirshfeld
Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office



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