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## Join Us at the "Coolest Museum in the World" - Be a NICEE Judge!

Being around 400+ student inventors is an amazing, inspiring experience. Hearing their stories first-hand, about how they found problems and solved them, is, in a word, unforgettable.

If you are looking for an inspiring, unforgettable way to interact with, and support, young problem-solvers, please join us at this year's **National Invention Convention and Entrepreneurship Expo** (NICEE) at **The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation**, which was just named the "**Coolest Museum in the World**" by *The New York Times*.

The competition and awards ceremony is Friday, June 1st, and we encourage you to stay for all the fun activities throughout the long weekend, starting Thursday, May 31st and wrapping up Saturday, June 2nd. The Henry Ford is providing all judges with multi-day passes to its museum sites, one of which **inspired Walt Disney's creation of Disneyland**. The Henry Ford is a short 20-minute drive from Detroit Airport. STEMIE has a huge block of rooms reserved at **The Edward Hotel & Convention Center in Dearborn**, a 4-star hotel.

Learn about being a judge by checking out the video at the top of this newsletter and reading "**A Day in the Life of an Invention Convention Judge**." Details about judging at this year's NICEE can be found **here**. No

particular experience is necessary -- we all are problem-solvers and inventing is a form of problem-solving! If you would rather volunteer than judge, **volunteer registration** opens April 1st.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please email Juli Shively at [jshively@stemie.org](mailto:jshively@stemie.org).

## Invent Idaho State Finals: "Kids Who Will Change the World"

More than 125 students from across Idaho, including 65 students from the far reaches of North Idaho, competed at the Invent Idaho State Finals at the University of Idaho in early March. An article by The Coeur d'Alene Press, entitled "[Kids Who Will Change the World](#)," quoted Invent Idaho's State Director, Beth Brubaker, who noted, "The quality of inventions this year was outstanding. Our future is in good hands with such amazing young inventors and problem solvers."

One example is 7th-grade Idaho student Alisha Davidson, who invented the "Amblyopia Cov-Tact," a dyed contact that discreetly corrects lazy eye. [Alisha's story](#) about why this was important to her will touch your heart. Alisha will be presenting her invention at 2018 NICEE.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Invent Idaho, which was founded in 1989. To learn more about this year's state finals, check out *The Argonaut*'s coverage of the event, "[Bright Ideas at UI](#)."



## Northern New England Regional Invention Convention

More than 250 K-12 student inventors from schools across New Hampshire and Massachusetts competed in the Northern New England Regional Invention Convention on March 25th. The event, hosted by the [Academy of Applied Science's Young Inventors' Program](#), and sponsored by Fidelity Investments, took place at Southern New Hampshire University.

One of the inventions at the event was a device to help blind people navigate. WMUR9 interviewed the inventor, Lexington High School student Sid Harthanantha. Watch WMUR9's interview of Sid, and coverage of the event, [here](#).

## Georgia Tech K-12 InVenture Prize State Finals

Georgia Tech's K-12 InVenture Prize State Finals were held in March on Georgia Tech's campus. More than 2000 students take part in the program throughout Georgia, with the top teams from each school advancing to the State Finals.

The People's Choice Award this year went to the "Travel on Foot Roller" team. The TAG Best Manufacturing Award went to "Flex Fit" and the IronCAD Best Use of CAD Award went to "Kistick."



## Michigan Invention Convention and Showcase

The first annual Michigan Invention Convention and Showcase was held at The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation on March 19th. More than 100 students in 3rd through 12th grade participated in the state competition. Some of the winning inventions included an "iSleep Smart Pillow," a portable water source, and a wristband for communications between deaf persons and law enforcement.

One of the highlights of the day was "the palpable energy in the room when the judges gathered for lunch," noted Ben Seymour, one of The Henry Ford organizers of the event. "They were not only excited to share the unique and thoughtful ideas that they had evaluated, but also marveled at the empathy, curiosity and creative thinking displayed by the students."

## STEMIE Team Member Spotlight: Juli Shively

Juli Shively, The STEMIE Coalition's Senior Director of Outreach, is truly the backbone of all that happens at STEMIE. Whether it is planning the National Invention Convention and Entrepreneurship, onboarding new Affiliates, executing all the details for 1st-time-ever state Invention Conventions, coordinating the Affiliate Fall Summit, etc., Juli is at the epicenter, orchestrating all that needs to be done.

Juli started in 2002, as an event volunteer for the Ohio Invention Convention. She then moved into bigger roles as the Regional Coordinator, and then as the Director of Operations and Education. She joined The STEMIE Coalition in August 2017 as the Senior Director of Outreach.

When asked about the reason she is passionate about fostering K-23 invention education, Juli replied: "I am a



philanthropist at heart who believes the best way to promote the welfare of others is by building an army of inspired, well-equipped educators and the superheroes who - will not only use their knowledge to make our world a better place, but who will continue to evolve this mission in ways we can't even begin to imagine today. So proud to be a part of it all!"



[Maine Invention Convention](#)



["Tennessee Grows Really Smart Kids"](#)



[Florida Invention Convention: Coming Soon!](#)

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STEMIE's mission is to have every child become an inventor once, better twice, instilling creative problem-solving, analytical skills, critical thinking, and confidence for life. STEMIE bridges STEM + Invention + Entrepreneurship (STEMIE) to build an Innovation Ecosystem.

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