

Volume 2 Issue 9, December 2022

CEE's e-Newsletter: Stay informed about the latest news and events.

2022 Annual Fund Up and Atom!

The Center for Excellence in Education's (CEE) 2022 Annual Fund campaign concludes on December 31. The campaign supports the Center's vital science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education programs. Thanks to the 2022 Alumni and Parent Committees for volunteering time and expertise to advance CEE. Alumni Committee members are: **Matthew Thrasher** (RSI '98) (Chair), **Jason Koh** (RSI '85), **Rich Simon** (RSI '86), **John Quisel** (RSI '88), **Jed Macosko** (RSI '89), **Rageshree Ramachandran** (RSI '90), **Evan M. Schwartz** (RSI '00), **Nina Vasan** (RSI '01), **Ryan Orley** (RSI '05), **Caroline S. Lo** (RSI '07), and **William Ellsworth** (USABO '17 & RSI '18). CEE's Parents Committee (CPC) members are: **Doug Himberger**, PhD, CEE Trustee and CPC Chair (Chair), **Jaime & Jerry Horowitz** (RSI '87), **Tina and Howard Kesselheim** (RSI '91 & '94), **Susan Wildstrom** (RSI '97), **Roger and Marianne Pellegrini** (RSI '11), **Marli Pasternak** (RSI '12), **Sushovan Guha** (USABO '14 & '15), **Angela Fu** (RSI '17), **John Liu and Catherine Lu** (RSI '18), **Yvonne Li** (USABO '18 & '19), **Judy Rosman and Michael Vogelbaum, MD** (RSI '18), **Peng Jiang, PhD and Julie Wang** (RSI '19), **Sarah and Pete Meindl** (RSI '19), **Dr. Fang Zhu** (RSI '19), **Jin Cheng** (RSI '19), **Doug Shell and Wendy Cheng-Shell** (RSI '21), **Elizabeth Pan** (USABO '21), **Vidya and Anand Iyer** (USABO '21), **Jennifer and John Wahlig** (RSI '21 & '22), **Steven Zhu**, (USABO '20 & '22), **Annie Yan Chen** (USABO '21, '22), and **Nicholas and Chijui Liao Van Dusen** (USABO '22).

As a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization, donations to CEE are tax-deductible. Make a gift to CEE by visiting www.cee.org/donate. Checks also may be mailed to the Center at 7918 Jones Branch Drive, Suite 700, McLean, VA 22102. Every gift helps the Center to keep RSI, USABO, TEP, and STEM Lyceums cost-free to participants. CEE is a GuideStar Platinum charity and has the top rating from GreatNonprofits.



Research Science Institute

CEE continues to serve its mission of nurturing high school and university scholars to careers of excellence and leadership in STEM. This summer, for the first time since the pandemic, 92 students convened on the campus of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Massachusetts for CEE's 2022 Research Science Institute (RSI). The intensive, six-week RSI

program provided students the opportunity to conduct original, innovative research under academic and professional mentors.



RSI Class of 2022

The top five written presentations were given by **Shriya Bhat**, Plano East Senior High School, Plano, Texas; **Michelle Hua**, Cranbrook Kingswood School, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; **Michael Huang**, Phillips Academy (Andover, Massachusetts), Guangdong, China; **Iliyas Noman**, Sofia High School of Mathematics, Sofia, Bulgaria; and **Patrick Wahlig**, Falmouth High School, Falmouth, Maine. The top five oral presentations were given by **Madeleine de Belloy de Saint Lienard**, Lycee Francais de San Francisco, San Francisco, California; **Shriya Bhat**, Plano East Senior High School, Plano, Texas; **AnAn Desimone**, Windsor School, Boston, Massachusetts; **Arvind Seshan**, Fox Chapel Area High School, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and **Alex Wang**, Syosset High School, Syosset, New York. Each of the award winners received \$1,000 awards from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.



Rickoid of the Year

Apoorva Panidapu, from Nautilus Academy Homeschool in San Jose, CA, was chosen by her RSI peers for the top honor—Rickoid of the Year—at RSI. The award recognizes academic acumen, leadership, and personal demeanor, and is named for the late **Admiral H.G. Rickover**, father of the nuclear Navy and a founder of CEE.

RSI '23 will convene from June 25 to August 5, 2023. It will bring together top U.S. and international high school students who have completed comparable to three years of high school. **Mark Kantrowitz** (RSI '84) will again serve as the Director of RSI. CEE is pleased that MIT has approved an additional number of RSI students to be capped at 100. RSI continues to be cost-free for students to attend thanks to the generosity of donors. More information is at <https://www.cee.org/programs/research-science-institute>.

USA BIOlympiad

USA Biolympiad

CEE's 2022 USA Biolympiad (USABO), the nation's most prestigious biology education and testing program for U.S. high school students, was also a resounding success, with nearly 11,000 students from across the nation participating in the online USABO exam in February through a partnership with Art of Problem Solving (AoPS). The USABO 2022 National Finals were held at Marymount University in Arlington, VA from May 28 to June 9, 2022. During the 10 days of the USABO National Finals, students participated cost-free in intensive theoretical and practical biology tutorials.

USABO Gold Medalists are **Derek Chen**, Belmont High School, Belmont, Massachusetts; **Lawrence Long**, BASIS Independent Silicon Valley, San Jose, California; **Greycen Ren**, Adlai E. Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, Illinois; and **Jason Wang**, Marriotts Ridge High School, West Friendship, Maryland. All four 2022 gold medalists were invited to Capitol Hill for Team USA Recognition Day on July 26, 2022, where they met with **U.S. Senator Jacky Rosen**, Nevada, and lunched with **U.S. Representative Neal Dunn**, Florida, both CEE Honorary Trustees.



2022 USA Biolympiad Team on Capitol Hill

Preparations are now underway for 2023 USABO. 560 schools registered for the exam, and over 9,000 high school students are preparing for the online Open Exam on February 2. Marymount University will host the National Finals. CEE's USA Biolympiad (USABO) Clubs are a catalyst for students to engage in biology experiences outside of the classroom with a network of resources. The Center serves a vital coordinating role, offering guidelines to organize a club, provides study resources, and assists with connections to alumni. **Olivia Krachenfels** is the USABO Clubs Coordinator, who is working with **Kathy Frame**, Advisor & Consultant, USABO. Olivia graduated from Flagler College with a BA in Business Administration and Computer Information Systems. For more information on USABO, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/usa-biolympiad>.



Teacher Enrichment Program

Throughout the year CEE's Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP) hosted monthly virtual STEM education events, including [Bite of Science](#) workshops and [College & Career Panels](#) for STEM teachers and guidance counselors. TEP connects rural and urban high school teachers with industry, academia, and CEE alumni to make meaningful professional links to benefit students. TEP focuses on best practices, resources, and exposure to the breadth and depth of scientific discovery often not available to teachers and their students. All TEP resources and professional development events are cost-free to participants. To date, more than 4,000 teachers from over 1,400 schools have participated. The program has reached over 600,000 underserved rural and urban students to consider STEM careers. **Adeola Olagoke**, TEP's Manager, will be organizing more exciting experiences for teachers in 2023. She holds a degree from Texas A&M University. For more information, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/teacher-enrichment-program>.



STEM Lyceums

This year CEE launched STEM Lyceums, monthly virtual meetings to engage high school students in discussion and exploration of STEM concepts and unique STEM career pathways, provided at no cost to schools or students. Meetings foster critical thinking skills, encourage excitement for science, and prepare students to enter STEM careers. This year students explored genomics, clean/renewable energy, nuclear engineering, the Internet of Things (IoT) in healthcare (smart devices), zoology, biomedical engineering, and data science and cybersecurity. View a [playlist](#) of the programs on YouTube. **Erika Matthews**, STEM Lyceums manager, will continue building this new CEE program for underserved students. She holds a degree from Washington University in St. Louis. CEE's STEM Lyceums partners include Virginia Bio, United Negro College Fund, and the Urban League of Hampton Roads. For more information, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/stem-lyceums>.



Annual Rickoid Holiday Party

CEE's Annual Rickoid Holiday Party is always a fun evening to enjoy the camaraderie of old and new friends, with lots of turkey, ham, linguini, and Italian desserts. The party was held on Saturday, December 17 at **Ms. D's** home. Alumni from 1984-2022 flew in from all over the world and many stayed overnight..





Center for Excellence in Education
7918 Jones Branch Drive Suite 700
McLean, VA 22102
www.cee.org
info@cee.org
(703) 448-9062



The Center for Excellence in Education (CEE), a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit, nurtures high school and university scholars to careers of excellence and leadership in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and encourages collaboration between and among scientific and technological leaders in the global community. Tax-deductible gifts from supporters help to keep CEE's programs cost-free to participants. Support the Center's vital STEM education mission at www.cee.org/donate.



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