

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



**Tuesday, April 25**

11 am to 2 pm ET

Capitol Hill, Washington, DC

Featuring Members of Congress and CEE Alumni



### CEE's Congressional Luncheon

The Center for Excellence in Education's (CEE) Annual Congressional Luncheon will be hosted on Tuesday, April 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. The luncheon brings together STEM leaders in the public and private sectors, friends of CEE, and alumni of the Center's programs. Honorary Congressional Trustees are invited to make comments. The 2023 Senator Joseph I. Lieberman Award for Outstanding Achievement in STEM will also be presented to [Dr. Aaron S. Kesselheim](#), MD, JD, MPH, Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and a faculty member in the Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics in the Department of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He attended CEE's Research Science Institute (RSI) in 1991. The keynote address will be presented by [Dr. Jonathan Gardner](#), Deputy Senior Project Scientist for the James Webb Space Telescope. RSVP [online](#) by April 10.



### Research Science Institute

**Ellen Xu** (RSI '22) placed third in the 2023 Regeneron Science Talent Search (STS) science and math competition for high school seniors. Ms. Xu, recipient of the \$150,000 prize, is a student at Del Norte High School, San Diego, CA. She was selected from nearly 2,000 highly qualified entrants. Ms. Xu developed an algorithm that uses a smartphone photo of the patient to aid in the diagnosis of Kawasaki disease, the leading cause of acquired heart

disease in children between one and five. Four other 2022 RSI alumni were among the top 40 finalists: **Angela Chen**, North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, Durham, NC; **Madeleine de Belloy**, Lycée Français de San Francisco, CA; **Michelle Hua**, Cranbrook Kingswood School, Bloomfield Hills, MI; and **Sally Zhu**, The Harker School, San Jose, CA. Thirty of CEE's RSI alumni and two USA Biolympiad alumni were among the semi-finalists. These students built on their extraordinary RSI experience which included original, innovative research. For more information about CEE's RSI, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/research-science-institute>.

# USA BIOLYMPIAD

## USA Biolympiad

Preparations are underway for the 2023 USA Biolympiad (USABO), the nation's most prestigious biology education and testing program for U.S. high school students. 580 schools registered for the exam, and more than 9,000 high school students registered for the online Open Exam, which took place on February 2. The top 10% of Open Exam participants qualify to take the online Semifinal Exam which consists of multiple-choice, short-answer, multiple true/false, and free response questions. The Semifinal Exam was held on March 16, and USABO Semifinal Exam Scores will be available April 21, 2023 at 5 p.m.

The top 20 semifinalists will attend the USABO National Finals at Marymount University June 2-16 in Arlington, Virginia. Students collaborate with leading biologists and learn from guest speakers. Students then take exams to determine the USA Biolympiad Team. During the 2-week USABO National Finals, students participate in cost-free intensive theoretical and practical biology tutorials. The four gold medalists from USABO's National Finals represent the United States at the 34th International Biology Olympiad, a worldwide competition involving student teams from 78 countries. It will be hosted by the United Arab Emirates in July. For more information on USABO, visit <https://www.cee.org/programs/usa-biolympiad>.



## Teacher Enrichment Program

CEE's Teacher Enrichment Program presented a College & Career Panel on STEM in Healthcare on Thursday, March 30 via Zoom. The guest speakers were: **Shirley L. Bazdar**, Program manager for the Claude Moore Scholars program, and **Dr. Megan Koh (Chung)** (RSI '88, '89), Obstetrician-Gynecologist. Each shared information and insights into STEM careers and

educational pathways. The recording will be posted on [CEE's YouTube channel](#).

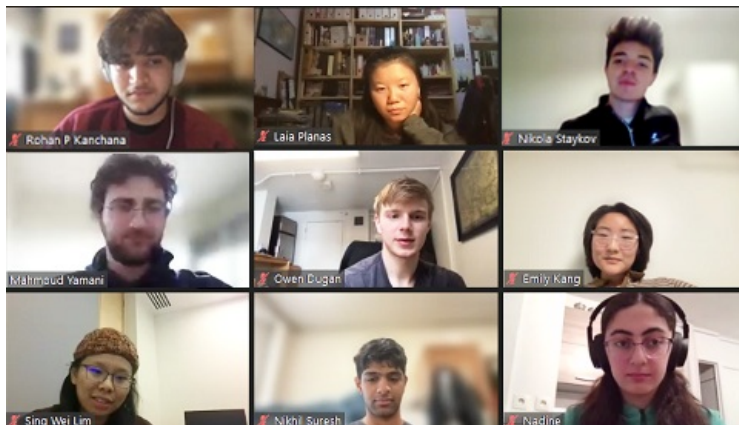
Earlier this month TEP hosted a "It's Not Rocket Science: NASA Breaks Barriers," a free Bite of Science online seminar that illustrates the interdisciplinary nature of STEM and the real-world applications of STEM skills. Panelists included **Jennifer Becerra**, EdD, a Program Specialist at NASA Johnson Space Center; **Seth Gordon**, PhD, (RSI '08) Sr. Principal Systems Engineer Northrop Grumman; **Kelly McCarthy**, Education Program Specialist in NASA's Office of STEM Engagement; and **Conrad Poelman**, PhD (RSI '85), Chief Scientist and Owner, Stellar Science Ltd Co. Watch the recording. To date, 4,000 teachers from over 1,400 schools have participated in TEP programs. The program has reached nearly 600,000 underserved rural and urban students to encourage STEM careers. More information about CEE's Teacher Enrichment Program is at <https://www.cee.org/programs/teacher-enrichment-program>.



## STEM Lyceums

CEE's STEM Lyceums is a virtual club for underserved high school students to learn about STEM professions and career pathways, provided at no cost to students. The next CEE STEM Lyceum is Friday, April 21, 2023, from 4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. ET. Speakers will discuss innovating on scientific discovery through cutting-edge research. Learn about careers in Pharmacology and resources about scholarships for high school students considering careers in medicine. Register [here](#).

Earlier this month CEE hosted its March STEM Lyceum on the topic of using data to make informed decision-making. Distinguished speakers included: **Tim Profeta**, Faculty Fellow and Founding Director of Duke University's Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions; **Ann Shellenbarger Jones**, PhD, (RSI '90) Principal of Industrial Economics Incorporated (IEC); and **Cecilia Hegamin-Younger**, PhD, Professor at EUCLID (Euclid University) and a consultant with Cecil International LLC. Watch the recording [here](#). More information about STEM Lyceums is at <https://www.cee.org/programs/stem-lyceums>.



## Zoom Reunions

Recently Rickoids from the RSI class of 2020 took time off from their studies to catch up with classmates. Many are in their second year of college, pursuing majors in their favorite STEM field. Several others couldn't choose between two or even three fields, so had no choice but to double or triple major. Conversation went well into the second hour, with discussion of the hazards of being graded on a curve, and trying to figure out if and why math should require in-person participation..

CEE's Zoom reunions not only help the Center connect with alumni through the years, but they are a wonderful opportunity for alumni from the U.S. and other nations to network. Many participants said they had never joined any kind of reunion before; their experiences were particularly exciting. **James Schuyler** (RSI '88), CEE's Webmaster & Alumni Liaison, is leading this initiative. Please contact him at [jschuyler@cee.org](mailto:jschuyler@cee.org) if you can volunteer time to assist in this project.



## Alumni: Please Update Your Information

If you have not recently done so, please take a moment to update your alumni information [here](#) so that the Center's staff can better plan alumni events and programs, including CEE's 40th Anniversary celebration October 13-15, 2023 in Cambridge, MA. Thanks again for being part of CEE's special RSI and USABO alumni community.



USA  
BIOlympiad

**CEE Alumni LinkedIn Group**

Good news! CEE now has a group active on LinkedIn for alumni to engage in social, career, and academic networking. This group offers CEE alumni an ideal way to post job openings to other alumni and to connect to others in their career or academic fields. If you are an alum of CEE's RSI or USABO, please contact CEE's Alumni Liaison **James Schuyler** at [jschuyler@cee.org](mailto:jschuyler@cee.org) to join.

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