

Celebrating 35 Years of

Excellence

Center for Excellence in Education

2017-2018 Alumni Campaign

Alumni Campaign Update

The Center of Excellence in Education (CEE) is proud of its 35-year tradition of outstanding STEM alumni. That tradition continues this year as ***25 of the 2018 National Semi-Finalists in the Regeneron Science Talent Search (STS) are alumni of the Center's 2017 RSI and 2016 USABO programs.***

Nearly 350 alumni have now donated a total of \$308, 857 to CEE's 2017-18 Alumni Campaign, which is 88% of our \$350,000 goal. The 347 alumni donors represent 69% of our goal to increase alumni Campaign participation by 20% over the Center's previous alumni effort.

If you have already made your gift, **THANK YOU!** If you have not yet participated, please visit www.cee.org/donate today.

Donor Profile



Among the many donors to the 2017-2018 Alumni Campaign are two generations of the Dienes family. Klee Dienes (RSI '88) is the first alumnus to have children selected for RSI. Klee is also a Campaign Class Captain and a long time donor to the Center. Klee's twin sons Tom and Andy (both RSI'16) have also made gifts to the Alumni Campaign to ensure the longevity of the Center.

Klee lives in Concord, NH, and often visits the Center's offices when he is in Virginia. Tom and Andy, both previously from Concord, now live most of the year in Cambridge, MA where they are in their second semester as freshmen at MIT.

At MIT, Tom is currently studying brain and cognitive science and Andy is studying mathematics. Following in their father's footsteps (Klee was an RSI Counselor in 1988), Andy and Tom supported the Center by volunteering their time and experience at RSI last summer. Andy worked as a Physics Tutor, and Tom was RSI's Systems Manager.

Tom supports RSI “because it provides life-changing research experience free of charge to high schoolers, and is the best of its kind.” He added, “RSI was an incredible experience that connected me with countless amazing scientists across the country. I’m impressed not only with its results, but also its ability to constantly improve.”

For the Dienes family, supporting CEE is family affair spanning two generations of alumni.

Alumni Events and Announcements

- **Calling Rickoid Web Developers:** The Center seeks alumni or friends experienced in website design for an upgrade to www.CEE.org. Knowledge of Drupal and WordPress required. Contact Maite@CEE.org.
- **The Winter Olympics are coming.** But if not for STEM innovations, the sports would be slower and weaker. Share your favorite STEM winter sports innovation with BMcIntyre@CEE.org and we’ll post them for you during the Olympics. Examples:
 - **Shear Thickening Fluid (Dilatant)**, is an example of a non-Newtonian fluid where the shear viscosity increases with applied shear stress. This behavior is only one type of deviation from Newton's Law, and it is controlled by such factors as particle size, shape, and distribution. It was responsible for Gold and Silver at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver when Lindsey Vonn and U.S. teammate Julia Mancuso took first and second place in ladies downhill skiing. They wore seamless uniforms whose main ingredient was shear thickening fluid. The special suit meant that the skiers could get rid of leg and arms pads, making the suit more aerodynamic, and the skiers faster.
 - **Biomechanics** changed the world of Olympic speed skating forever. The idea of a hinged skate blade to give a skater more power was described and patented in 1894 by Karl Hannes from Burghausen, Germany, but it never caught on. It was re-invented by Dutch biomechanist Gerrit Jan van Ingen Schenau, who started work on a hinged speed skate in 1979, created his first prototype in 1980 and finished his Ph.D. thesis on the subject in 1981. The modern “Clap Skate” was born, and by the 1998 Olympics only the North Koreans would still use the old fixed skate. The result? A torrent of world records.
- **Spring, 2018:** CEE Annual Congressional Luncheon, date TBD.
- **October 12 – 14, 2018:** CEE 35th Anniversary Weekend and Alumni Reunion in Cambridge, MA

Important Dates

- **USA Biology Olympiad (USABO)** Registration *will close January 16, 2018*. The 2018 USABO Finals dates will be announced this spring.

- **Research Science Institute (RSI)** Registration *will close January 12, 2018*. The 2018 RSI will take place June 24 to August 4, 2018.

Opinion

- [Im/Possible](#) by Joann DiGennaro
- [Support Top Academic Talent](#) by Joann DiGennaro
- [Dropping the Ball on Geek Power](#) by Joann DiGennaro

CEE News

- CEE is now on [Instagram](#), please connect with CEE!
- Start 2018 off with [a review of your science knowledge!](#)
- The Fall/Winter edition of CEE's newsletter, [Centerline](#)
- Donor profile featuring [Andrew Hennes, USABO '17](#)
- Donor profile featuring [Dan \(RSI '98\) and Josie \(Weeks\) Haspel \(RSI '01\)](#)
- [CEE Director William T. Stuart profile](#)
- [Health in High Ability Students](#) webinar video
- New CEE Video, ["You Make Friends for Life"](#)
- [Donor Profile featuring Mark Kantrowitz \(RSI '84\)](#)
- [The University of California, San Diego \(UCSD\) will host CEE's USA Biology Olympiad \(USABO\) beginning 2018](#). Pam R. Taub, MD, FACC, (RSI '93), Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), helped secure the new home of USABO National Finals at UCSD.
- Flashback Friday Video: [Where It Began...RSI 1984](#)
- [Exciting News about recent CEE Alumni](#)
- [2017 Alumni & Program Event Highlights](#)
- [2017-2018 Alumni Campaign Update](#)
- [Throwback Thursday: Video](#)
- [Campaign Kickoff FAQs](#)

CEE Video and Online Resources

- Admiral H.G. Rickover, father of the nuclear Navy and civilian uses of nuclear power, with background on [the founding of CEE](#) in 1983.
- The Center's [Annual Luncheon](#) on Capitol Hill, sponsored this year by Google.
- CEE's USA Biology Olympiad (USABO) [National Finals closing ceremony](#), [field labs](#), and [Team USA](#), who earned four gold medals at the International Biology Olympiad and is the reigning #1 high school biology team in the world.
- The Center's world-renown [Research Science Institute \(RSI\)](#), which this year hosted [80 top scholars](#) from 35 states and 15 countries.
- The Distinguished [Guest Lecture](#) series, including [Nobel Laureates](#), at CEE's Research Science Institute (RSI).

- The top five RSI Final Research Presentations in 2017 by rising high school seniors from VA, CO, WA, Spain and Singapore, RSI's 2017 top student awards and Rickover Award winner.
- Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP) 'Bite of Science' events for rural and urban middle and high-school STEM teachers featuring speakers from industry and academia.
- TEP STEM Teacher Roundtables that connect industry, government, academic, and non-profit representatives with teachers to create awareness of STEM career fields and required job skills.
- Free lesson plans, presentations and classroom resources for STEM teachers.
- Webinars for parents and educators of high school and high ability students.
- The life-changing impact of the Center's STEM student programs, whose alumni represent all 50 states and 55 international countries.