

Volume 3 Issue 8, December 2023

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



Thank You!

The Center for Excellence in Education (CEE) participated in GivingTuesday, a global day of giving that inspires millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. GivingTuesday is held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving in the U.S. for people to support impactful charities and causes. GivingTuesday coincides with CEE's 2023 Annual Fund campaign to support the Center's vital STEM programs. All contributions to CEE advance the Center's vital STEM education mission to nurture the science and technology leaders of tomorrow. The Center is a GuideStar Platinum charity and has the top rating from GreatNonprofits. Donations are tax-deductible. CEE program alumni, parents, friends of the Center, and supporters of STEM education may give at www.CEE.org/donate.



CEE Programs Update

Registration is open for CEE's 2024 [Research Science Institute](#) (RSI), which will bring together 100 top U.S. and international high school students for the cost-free, six-week summer program that provides students with the opportunity to conduct original, cutting-edge research. The Center's RSI is jointly sponsored with MIT. **Mark Kantrowitz** (RSI '84) will again serve as the Director of RSI. RSI continues to be cost-free for students to attend, thanks to the generosity of CEE donors. High school juniors or comparable may apply at <https://www.cee.org/apply-rsi>. The deadline is December 13, 2023.

Preparations are underway for the 2024 USA Biolympiad (USABO), the nation's most prestigious biology education and testing program for high school students. A record 682 schools have registered. For more information on USABO, visit <https://www.usabo-trc.org>.

CEE released the [2023 CEE Index of Excellence in STEM Education](#), that analyzes individual student rankings in each of five STEM-related Olympiad competitions; generates averages and rankings by participating country; and compares overall Olympiad performance by country. An analysis of Team USA's performance from 1993 to the present shows a steady improvement in average ranking, from approximately 6th to 2nd or 3rd place behind China in recent years. An increasing focus on STEM education in the United States is important to national success. In addition, increased competition in the global marketplace has driven students to distinguish themselves through excellence in academic competitions.

CEE's Teacher Enrichment Program (TEP) will host an in-person Northern Virginia teacher regional STEM workshop on February 24, 2024. TEP staff are excited to meet teachers in-person and to provide an environment for them to gain added resources for their classrooms. On October 26 TEP hosted "Taking a Bite out of Cancer," an online seminar featuring **Dr. Sharnise Mitchell**, Research Program Manager at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. [Watch on YouTube](#). On November 16 TEP hosted "What's in Your Food," a cost-free online seminar about STEM in food science featuring scientist **Dr. Maya Warren**. [Watch on YouTube](#).

CEE's [STEM Lyceums](#) is a monthly virtual club for underserved high school students to learn about STEM professions and career pathways, provided at no cost to schools or students. On November 15 CEE hosted "Science in Music," an online seminar featuring **Dr. Mark Temple**, a Senior Lecturer in Molecular Biology from the School of Science at Western Sydney University. [Watch on YouTube](#). On October 25, CEE's STEM Lyceums hosted "From Molecules to Medicine: Pathways in Pharmaceuticals and Therapeutics," featuring **Dr. Emmeline Blanchard**, a senior research scientist at Spark Therapeutics, and **Susan Lee** (RSI '91), a partner in Goodwin's Life Sciences group and Life Sciences Regulatory & Compliance practice. [Watch on YouTube](#).

2023 Annual Fund: Up and Atom!

CEE's 2023 Up and Atom Annual Fund campaign continues through December 31. Thanks to the 2023 Alumni and Parent Committees for volunteering time and expertise to advance CEE. Alumni Committee members are **Raga**

Ramachandran (RSI '90) (Chair), **Jason Koh** (RSI '85), **Rich Simon** (RSI '86), **John Quisel**, (RSI '88), **Jed Macosko**, (RSI '89), **George Ho**, (RSI '90), **Srishti Gupta**, (RSI '92), **Matt Thrasher**, (RSI '98), **Jenny Powers**, (RSI '99), **Ellen De Obaldia**, (RSI '03), **Niffer Nan**, (RSI '03), **Ryan Orley**, (RSI '05), **Huan (Jim) Liu**, (RSI '05), **Caroline S. Lo**, (RSI '07), **Albert Wang**, (RSI '15), **Will Ellsworth**, (USABO '17/RSI '18). CEE's Parents Committee (CPC) members are: **Dr. Doug Humberger**, CEE Trustee and CPC Chair (Chair), **Jaime Horowitz** (RSI '87), **Dr. Howard and Tina Kesselheim** (RSI '91 & '94), **Susan Wildstrom** (RSI '97), **Roger and Marianne Pellegrini** (RSI '11), **Jane Yao** (USABO '11, '12, & '23), **Marli and Art Pasternak** (RSI '12), **Dr. Sushovan Guha and Dr. Sarmistha Majumdar** (USABO '14 & '15), **John Ellsworth** (USABO '17, RSI '18), **Angela Fu** (RSI '17), **Judy Rosman and Dr. Michael Vogelbaum** (RSI '18), **Dr. Yan Zhang and Dr. Zhengtao Zhu** (RSI '18 & '22), **Sarah and Dr. Pete Meindl** (RSI '19), **Dr. Fang Zhu** (RSI '19), **Dr. Peng Jiang and Julie Wang** (RSI '19), **Jennifer and Dr. John B. Wahlig** (RSI '20 & '22), **Wendy Cheng-Shell and Doug Shell** (RSI '21), **Sharon Wan** (USABO '21), **Vidya and Anand Iyer** (USABO '21), **William Tang and Dr. Feng Liu** (USABO '21), **Elizabeth Pan** (USABO '21 & '22, RSI '23), **Margaret and Sangjin Oh** (RSI '22), **Bhrathi Rao** (RSI '22), **Chijui Liao and Nicholas Van Dusen** (USABO '22), **Janet Qian and Dr. Jing Hua** (RSI '22), **Ngozi and Dwane Bell** (RSI '22), **Tony Yan** (RSI '23), Linda and Tiger Shan (RSI '23), **Qin Li and Dr. Lei Yao** (RSI '23).



Holiday Party is December 16

CEE's Annual Rickoid Holiday Party is always a great fun evening to enjoy camaraderie of old and new friends, with lots and lots of turkey, ham, linguini, and Italian desserts. This year the party is on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023, starting at 7 p.m. at Ms. D's home located at 11740 Quay Road, Oakton, VA 22124. Alumni and friends of the Center typically fly in from all over the world and many stay overnight. RSVP [online](#) by Dec. 14, 2023. Contact Maite at (703) 448-9062 or maite@cee.org with any questions.

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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 (STEM),

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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