

National Inventors Hall of Fame®



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Celebrating Generations of Innovators for 50 Years



#### FROM THE CEO



In 2023, the National Inventors Hall of Fame® celebrated its 50th anniversary. We've accomplished a great deal in our first 50 years, including inducting 624 groundbreaking inventors, growing our partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, building relationships with forward-thinking philanthropic

partners, school districts and universities, and inspiring millions of students and educators nationwide through our hands-on invention education programs.

None of this would have been possible without your support for our mission to recognize inventors, promote creativity, and advance the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship. While we are proud of our shared accomplishments, we now look to the next 50 years and remain committed to our role as creative catalysts preparing today's students to become the innovators of tomorrow.

Our continued success underscores the enduring power of innovation in both propelling the world forward and helping people reach their true potential. In his seminal paper, "A Theory of Human Motivation," the American psychologist Abraham Maslow emphasized that once basic survival needs are met, individuals ultimately aspire to higher-level goals, seeking fulfillment and self-actualization. In other words, all of us are striving for more.

This begs the question: How does one transform aspirations into something tangible?

Our answer lies in learning from the world's great innovators. That's why our PreK-12 education programs incorporate the stories of National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees, transforming their lessons into engaging experiences.

By providing students with the mindset and skills necessary to turn dreams into reality, we will help them find success no matter where their paths may lead.

Sincerely,

Pietr

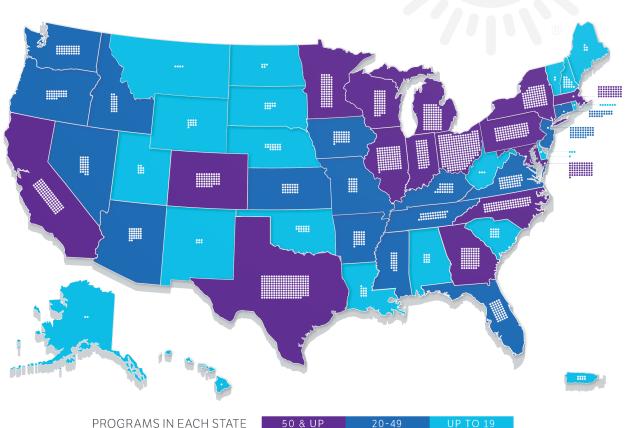
Michael J. Oister Chief Executive Officer, National Inventors Hall of Fame

#### **2023 AT A GLANCE**

### NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#### **PROVIDED 1 MILLION DAYS OF INVENTION EDUCATION IN 2023**



**3.3**MILLION

HILDREN, EDUCATORS, COLLEGE STUDENTS & INVENTORS IMPACTED

624 WORLD-CHANGING INDUCTES

34YEARS
LEADERS

### **2023 BY THE NUMBERS**

382,000+ PREK-8 STUDENTS & 10,000+

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

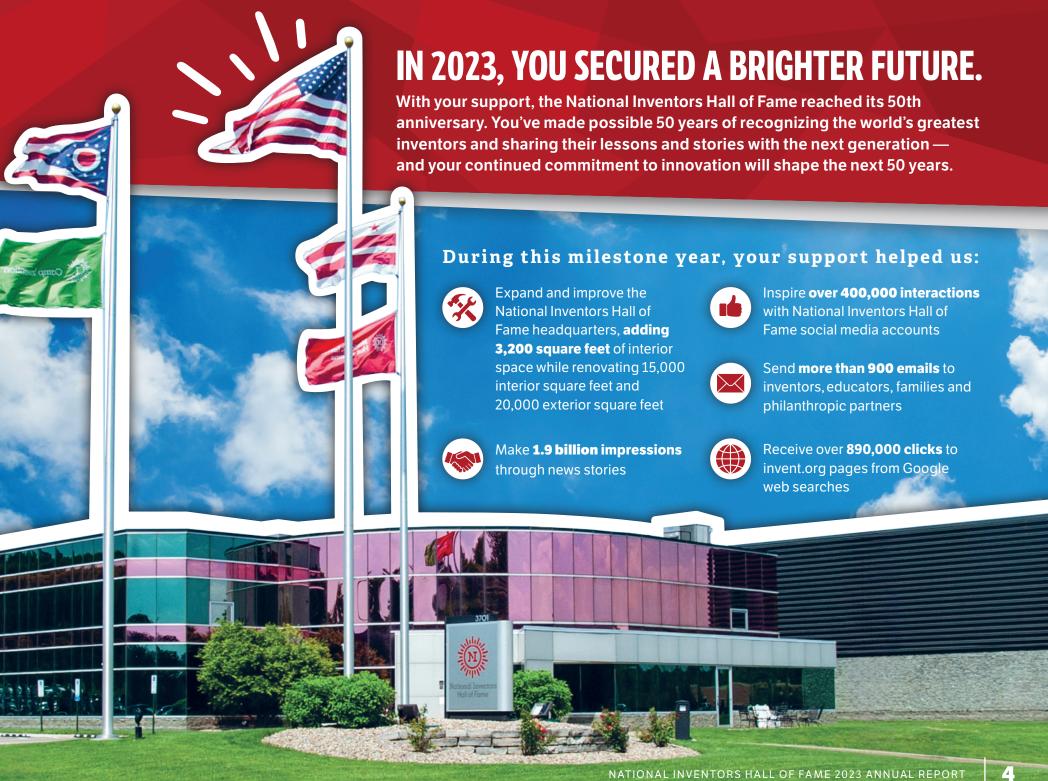
1,261 SCHOOLS & 1.281 DISTRICTS 50 STATES

PUERTO RICO & DC

289,000+
UNDERSERVED CHILDREN

**18,000**+

15,485
COLLEGIATE
INVENTORS COMPETITION
PARTICIPANTS



#### **EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

### YOU UPLIFTED FUTURE INNOVATORS.

In the next 50 years, the world's youngest innovators will take on the biggest challenges. Your support for National Inventors Hall of Fame education programs helps children see themselves as capable creators, building the mindset and skills they need to change the world.



### YOU EMPOWERED EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS, HELPING THEM SHARE THE JOY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING.



You supported **professional development** for educators who facilitated our curriculum in more than **2,500 schools and districts** 

Your gifts prioritized
equitable experiences in
supportive environments
for all learners



District partnerships brought **customized learning solutions** to students in California's Escondido Union School District, Maryland's Carroll County Public Schools and more





#### YOU REACHED MORE CHILDREN, IN MORE COMMUNITIES.

With your support, the all-new **2023 Camp Invention Wonder program** reached **116,00 children** 

You provided National Inventors Hall of Fame program scholarships to over **289,000 underserved children** 





You funded Spanishlanguage program materials for more than **84,000 children** 



You helped provide **1 million days of invention education** to more than **392,000 children** 







2,500 schools and districts across all 50 states,
Washington, D.C., and
Puerto Rico partnered with us to provide PreK-12 STEM programs including Camp Invention®, Club Invention® and Invention Project®

#### MEET A LEADERSHIP INTERN



Mya Sewell began her journey as a Camp Invention camper in 2013 at age 6, and she continued attending camp every year she was eligible. Now 16, Mya recently returned to Camp Invention to volunteer as a Leadership Intern. In this role, she has helped children bring their ideas to life and learn early on that they can make a difference. Combining her artistic talents with her excitement for STEM, Mya believes in the importance of setting goals and being persistent enough to achieve them.

"It was very comforting to be able to build and test my ideas with people that I know value STEM aspects of life like I did – and do still."

— Mya Sewell, Leadership Intern

#### **MEET EDUCATOR PARTNERS**

**Peggy Bohlin** has been the Director of a Camp Invention program in Roswell, New Mexico, for 15 years. In 2023, she grew her camp to 146 campers, plus nine Leaders-in-Training. Bohlin made her camp more accessible with the help of her generous Roswell community, raising more than \$10,000 for Camp Invention scholarships. Bohlin's dedication to education was rewarded in May 2023, when she became one of 100 teachers selected to take part in Disney's Imagination Campus Celebration.

"Camp Invention is an opportunity that kids need, that provides the kind of hands-on, innovative and team-building opportunities for children who otherwise might not get that chance."

— Peggy Bohlin, Camp Invention Director



**Sara Staley** partnered with the National Inventors Hall of Fame when she needed a program that would give her students hands-on, curiosity-sparking learning experiences while maintaining high academic standards. With Invention Project, she found an easy-to-implement program that exceeded her expectations. Over the past four years, Staley has seen firsthand the power of Invention Project to cultivate profound learning environments, and she has become a passionate advocate of invention education.

"Invention Project teaches students how to collaborate and get along with each other. Whatever they choose to do, these are the skills they will need to have."

— Sara Staley, Sunnyvale Intermediate School principal

#### **MEET A CAMP INVENTION FAMILY**



"I realized how powerful having motivation to solve a problem is, and that's sort of what STEM is – the discovery of real-world applications and ways to make life more convenient."

— Gary Leschinsky, Camp Invention alum "I learned how to not give up, and to be confident in what I was doing. So many of these skills I now use in my life."

— Mark Leschinsky, Camp Invention alum

"Camp Invention taught me that everyone has to equally share their ideas in order for whatever we're making to work and be the best it can be."

— Barbara Leschinsky, Camp Invention alum

Siblings Mark, Gary and Barbara Leschinsky each participated in Camp Invention during their elementary school years, and they've all grown to be exceptionally creative and accomplished teenagers. Mark, now 17, earned his first patent at age 10 and recently founded the Student World Impact Film Festival. Gary, now 15, is also a patented inventor, and Barbara, now 14, is a published author. Each attributes Camp Invention with helping them build an innovative mindset and essential life skills.



### **COLLEGIATE INVENTORS COMPETITION**

#### YOU REWARDED FUTURE STEM LEADERS.

The 33rd annual Collegiate Inventors Competition® (CIC) provided a one-of-a-kind opportunity for emerging inventors to advance their inventions. CIC Finalists presented their work to Hall of Fame Inductees and United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) patent examiners as they competed for cash prizes and patent acceleration.



#### YOU ENCOURAGED PROMISING INVENTORS TO PURSUE THEIR DREAMS.



On Oct. 24, 22 innovative students representing eight of the nation's top colleges and universities gathered at the USPTO headquarters



12 National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees and 2 USPTO officials

served as Judges, providing Finalists with expert insight and advice





CIC Finalists celebrated alongside legendary **inventors** as they were invited to attend the 2023 National Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony



## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS, CASH PRIZES WERE AWARDED TO OUR 2023 WINNERS:



Graduate Winner Adi Mittal invented Cerebral
Aneurysm Test (CAT-7), the first simple, whole bloodbased diagnostic test to detect the formation of a
cerebral aneurysm. Compared to existing methods,
this noninvasive test is less expensive, more accurate,
safer and able to be used earlier in the care process.



Undergraduate Winners Girish Hari, Ethan
Damiani, Netra Gandhi and Rhea Prem invented
FADpad, or filtered adhesive diagnostic pad. This
at-home menstrual blood diagnostic tool allows
users to collect their personal health information
safely and privately. It could help prevent early
deaths from cervical cancer among people
who menstruate.







Graduate Runner-Up Amir
Nasajpour is the inventor
behind Entropic Biosciences,
Inc. His bio-inspired rapid
sample preparation kit enables
high throughput culturing of
multiple cell types and rapid
self-assembly of these cells
into 3D self-standing tissue.
This technology can accelerate
life science research and drug
screening while working toward
individualized treatments for
cancer patients.

Undergraduate Runners-Up Arijit Nukala, Sneha Batheja, Ria Jha and Charlie Almoney (not pictured)

invented Bronchosleeve. This innovative device presents many advantages over current one-lung ventilation devices, combining ease of insertion, prevention of dislodgement and visualization using a bronchoscope while reducing patient injuries.

Arrow Electronics People's
Choice Award Winner Daniel
Collins invented NucleoTide.

This molecular diagnostic platform rapidly identifies marine pathogens and harmful algal blooms in samples of ocean water. Its low-cost testing capabilities can be deployed in the field, offering significant benefits across industries and the environment.

#### **MEET A CIC FINALIST**



**Charu Thomas** has accomplished a lot since her 2017 CIC experience. As of 2023, she has become a patented inventor and entrepreneur, as well as the founder and CEO of Ox — a company started from the very invention she presented at CIC. As her business grows, Thomas works passionately to advance the world of automation, specifically focusing on groundbreaking technology that puts humans first.

"It was one of the most impactful opportunities I've had throughout my career. Being at CIC exposed me to some of the most brilliant people you could ever imagine, people whose technologies have impacted our day-to-day lives."

- Charu Thomas, 2017 CIC Finalist

### INDUCTION CEREMONY AND MUSEUM

### YOU ILLUMINATED LEGACIES THAT WILL FOREVER IMPACT THE FUTURE.

The Greatest Celebration of American Innovation® was held Oct. 25-26. The 2023 Induction was more spectacular than ever before, because as we welcomed an extraordinary new class of Inductees, we also celebrated 50 years of innovation and impact.









• Special guests included Inductee Lonnie Johnson, inventor of the Super Soaker®, Inductee Lisa Lindahl, co-inventor of the sports bra, CIC Finalist Ethan Damiani, Camp Invention Director Amy Adams, Leadership Intern Arushi Pandey and Camp Invention camper Jalani Maitlan

 To represent the Hall of Fame's commitment to inspiring creativity at every stage of life, promoting relatable role models and providing authentic invention education, these special guests appeared on stage together in an extraordinary moment that illustrated the far-reaching impact of our mission

- The 2023 Inductee Class included **16 world-changing inventors** representing diverse fields, backgrounds and accomplishments and holding **more than 466 patents combined** at the time of their induction
- With the 2023 class, the National Inventors Hall of Fame has honored **624 Inductees**



The National Inventors Hall of Fame
Museum, located in the United
States Patent and Trademark Office
headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia,
inspired visitors of all ages with new
exhibits celebrating innovators who have
shaped industries and changed lives.

- The 2023 Inductee Class exhibit shared the diverse stories of our newest Inductees
- Sponsored by the Bobcat company, A Legacy
   of Innovation traced the evolution of Bobcat,
   beginning with the world's first compact loader —
   a forerunner to the Bobcat® skid-steer loader —
   invented by 2023 Inductees Louis and Cyril Keller
- The interactive exhibit Human Engineering invited visitors to feel the difference made by the patented wheelchair pushrim created by 2023 Inductee Rory Cooper, founder of the Human Engineering Research Laboratories (HERL)

#### Thanks to your support,

National Inventors Hall of Fame education programs introduced children to the best possible role models — our Inductees.

In 2023, Inductees inspired and influenced curricula designed to help the next generation build the I Can Invent® Mindset and realize their full potential.





More than 1,400 children attending Camp Invention benefited from in-person visits with National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees who encouraged their creativity and collaboration

**64 Inductees** were featured in Camp Invention's 2023 Wonder program



#### **MEET AN INDUCTEE**

Jim West, co-inventor of the electret microphone, was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1999 and since has become deeply involved in every aspect of our mission. Not only has West been featured in Camp Invention and Invention Project curricula, but he also has worked closely with our education team to help develop meaningful learning experiences. He has made visits to Camp Invention program sites and has served as a CIC Judge, personally encouraging innovators of all ages and backgrounds to pursue their dreams.

"This distinguished honor comes with great responsibility — to nurture the curiosity and ingenuity of the young inventors who will follow in our footsteps."

— Jim West, National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductee





#### **PARTNERSHIPS**

40

# YOU ENSURED THE FUTURE OF OUR MISSION.

In 2023, your meaningful gifts and dedicated support fueled our mission to recognize inventors, promote creativity, and advance the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship.

You made it possible for us to celebrate our first 50 years while looking ahead to the next 50 years with a renewed commitment to connecting generations of innovators across the country.



#### **SPONSORS**

















































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**Education Programs** 

\$250,000+

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Defense STEM Education Consortium (DSEC)

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#### **MEET A SPONSOR**

Outreach Program (AEOP) has partnered with the National Inventors Hall of Fame to provide scholarships for nearly 20,000 underserved children to attend Camp Invention alongside their peers. AEOP shares the Hall of Fame's commitment to increasing access to hands-on learning opportunities that introduce children to diverse, relatable role models including National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees.





"Role models make education and career paths real for children, opening the door for what is possible. When a child meets someone who looks like them and has a career in a field they are interested in, it is an incredibly validating experience, particularly for a young person just beginning their STEM journey."

— Brian Leftridge, AEOP STEM program manager in the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The National Inventors Hall of Fame Board of Directors continued to provide invaluable guidance and support for all our efforts.



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### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (IN THOUSANDS)

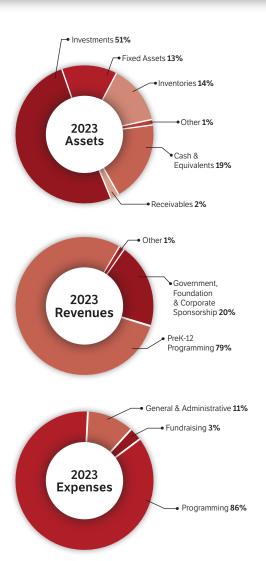
STATEMENT OF	2023	2022
FINANCIAL POSITION		

Assets		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$11,347	\$9,512
Accounts receivable	\$299	\$445
Employee Retention Credit	\$0	\$1,078
Grants receivable	\$1,141	\$1,812
Pre K-12 Education Program Supplies	\$8,575	\$8,738

\$8,051	\$6,976
\$21,564	\$14,245
\$1,780	\$1,140
\$771	\$1,006
\$8,206	\$7,562
	\$21,564 \$1,780 \$771

Total Assets	\$61,734	\$52,514
Liabilities & Net Assets		
Accounts payable &		
accrued expenses	\$3,966	\$5,011
Deferred Revenue	\$3,239	\$2,596
Other Liabilities	\$2,062	\$1,141
Total Liabilities	\$9,267	\$8,748
Net Assets	\$52,467	\$43,766
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	\$61,734	\$52,514

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	2023	2022
Revenue		
PreK-12 Programming	\$38,187	\$35,857
Government, Foundation & Corporate Sponsorships	\$9,826	\$8,733
Employee Retention Credit	-	\$1,078
Store	\$84	\$58
Other revenue	\$129	\$131
Total Revenue	\$48,226	\$45,857
Expenses		
Programs:		
Education	\$33,626	\$30,330
Recognition	\$2,462	\$1,490
Museum & Exhibits	\$1,244	\$944
Supporting Activities:		
Management & General	\$5,076	\$4,547
Fundraising	\$1,215	\$1,065
Total Expenses Related to Program & Supporting Activities	\$43,623	\$38,376
	44.000	<b>+=</b>
Net from Operations	\$4,603	\$7,481
Realized & Unrealized Investment Income (loss)	\$4,098	(3,552)
Change in Net Assets	\$8,701	\$3,929
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$43,766	\$39,837
Net Assets, End of Year	\$52,467	\$43,766





# THANK YOU

# for investing in the future of American innovation!

The National Inventors Hall of Fame team is grateful for your continued confidence in our nonprofit. It is your generosity that will carry our mission to the next milestone and provide nationwide opportunities to honor, inspire and challenge innovators of all ages and aspirations.

Find more opportunities to get involved at **invent.org.** 

