February 8, 2018

Dear <<First Name>>,

The new year brought an exciting change for the Lemelson-MIT Program. This month we moved offices from building 10 in the center of the MIT campus into office space near Kendall Square that will help us build new partnerships with the Cambridge community. We are also gearing up to celebrate National Inventors Day on February 11th to shine a light on the importance of invention and the inventors in the field today. I hope you will share our message over social media or create your own message about invention. Before the new year, I had the privilege of being interviewed for the cover story in Inventors Digest on the topic of women in the innovation field. Read more about that interview in the article below.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Couch, PhD
Executive Director
Lemelson-MIT Program
INVENTION WOMEN: THEIR ROLE IN INNOVATION
The January issue of Inventors Digest features Executive Director, Stephanie Couch on the cover and an inside discussion with her on the role of women inventors in today’s economy. She discusses some of her research work stemming from the InvenTeams initiative and one of the greatest challenges she sees today for women in the innovation field. Read about her thoughts on overcoming the challenges and more.

A MONTH OF NATIONAL CELEBRATIONS
February is a significant month for honoring the many individuals who impact our world through their inventions and innovative ideas. The Lemelson-MIT Program will be honoring our network of inventors using the hashtag #WeAreInventors. Please join us in the celebration by tagging us or sharing our message and hashtag on February 11th. We will also be celebrating Black History Month and National Engineers Week, February 18-24th.

LEMELESON-MIT MOVES OFF CAMPUS
The Lemelson-MIT Program has relocated to space in Cambridge’s Kendall Square. Our new location inside a former twine factory is 222 Third Street, Suite 0300 Cambridge, MA 02142. Lemelson-MIT was established in 1994 at MIT by prolific U.S. inventor Jerome Lemelson as a way of raising the statute of invention and inspiring young people to contribute to the future by inventing new technologies of tomorrow. Establishing additional community partnerships will help us create awareness of the invention pathway among youth who are not predisposed to STEM, while still carrying Jerome’s original vision for our program. Stay tuned for our open house date.

STUDENT PRIZE WINNER GUEST SPEAKER AT HEDY LAMARR FILM SCREENING
When the Lemelson-MIT Program was contacted by the Martha’s Vineyard Film Society for a female inventor who could inspire a room full of people before the screening of the Hedy Lamarr movie “Bombshell” with their story of being a female in a male dominated industry, we thought of Katherine Jin of Kinnos, Inc. She was the female inventor alongside her two male
2018 NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS STUDENT INNOVATION SHOWCASE
Demonstrate your invention to the highest caliber of inventors with an opportunity to be matched with an NAI Fellow for mentorship. The deadline for collegiate innovators interested in submitting applications for the National Academy of Inventors Student Innovation Showcase deadline is February 14th. Learn more about the showcase and download the flyer to share with friends, students or colleagues.

STUDENT PRIZE WINNER OPENING RESTAURANT
The undergraduate team winner from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology known as the “Spyce team” won the 2016 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize in the “Eat it!” category for their fully automated restaurant. The team will soon move their completely redesigned and reengineered robotic kitchen to restaurant patrons this spring in the Downtown Crossing area of Boston.

2018 CLEANTECH OPEN ACCELERATOR
The application deadline for the Cleantech Open accelerator is May 1 for inventors who want to accelerate their technology startup or mentors who want to volunteer their time as an expert. Inventors working in the northeast can also apply for the Cleantech Open Northeast. Don’t miss Cleantech Open Northeast's 2018 Kickoff Parties for an opportunity to learn more about the accelerator. Click on the location to register for the kickoff party near you:
- Providence, RI  February 21, 2018
- New York, NY  March 1, 2018
- Boston, MA  March 22, 2018

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT WINNER BROKE THROUGH THE BRICK WALL FOR WOMEN IN CHEMISTRY
Gertrude Elion was inspired to find a cure for her grandfather’s cancer and dedicated her career to that mission by becoming a chemist. However, when she entered the field, no one took her seriously because women didn’t become classmates who won the 2016 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize in the “Cure it!” undergraduate team category for their invention of Highlight® to prevent the spread of infectious disease.
chemists at that time. She broke through that wall of diversity to persevere and become the first female inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame after she received the Nobel Prize in 1988.