Dear <<First Name>>,

Fall is a special time for the Lemelson-MIT Program. This week we announced the 2017 winner of the $500K Lemelson-MIT Prize. 2017 marks the twenty-second year that the prize has been awarded to a career inventor whose creativity and inventiveness has had a significant impact on people's lives. You can learn more about this year's winner by clicking [here](#).

We close applications for the Lemelson-MIT Student Prize competition on September 30th and begin the process of identifying eight winners (four graduate students and four undergraduate student teams) to be announced in April 2018. More than one thousand potential student prize applicants have been identified over the last nine months as we have prepared for this fourth year of the national competition.

We announce the 15 high school student teams from across the nation who will receive InvenTeam grants to create useful and unique technological solutions to problems in their local communities on October 24th. This is the final phase of a multi-step process that begins with the selection of 35 teachers who receive Excite Awards as a precursor to the InvenTeam grant. Information about the next opportunity to apply for an Excite Award is available on our [website](#).

Finally, October marks the beginning of a new effort to help any interested educator or grantee to learn more about the different ways of helping young people learn to invent. Read more about the informational webinars in this issue of Invention Education eNews. Webinars compliment free curriculum resources available on our website downloaded by educators in 50 states and 44 countries.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Couch, PhD
Executive Director
Lemelson-MIT Program
LEMELSON-MIT TO DISCUSS INVENTION EDUCATION AT MASSACHUSETTS STEM SUMMIT

Lemelson-MIT will discuss invention education strategies for building and sustaining the pathway for greater diversity among innovators in the U.S. in two break-out sessions during the Massachusetts STEM Summit on Tuesday, November 14. The first session, a joint presentation with the Academy of Applied Science and InvenTeam Master Teacher, Doug Scott, will discuss the challenges and innovative ways educators can support the path to greater diversity in K-12 and among the higher-education community. A second session will describe the Waltham STEM Collaboratory and the collaborative work that is happening to build transformative STEM experiences for middle-school students, with a focus on under-represented populations in STEM.

MICROSOFT #MAKEWHATSNEXT PATENT PROGRAM

Two all girls InvenTeams have been accepted into the Microsoft #MakeWhatsNext Patent Program where they will receive pro-bono support from Microsoft's patent lawyers, along with guidance from their team of executives across marketing, legal and engineering to support the complex and lengthy patent process. The program celebrates the accomplishments of female inventors while working to close the patent gender gap. This year’s all female student prize team winner, Tactile, was also a part of the #MakeWhatsNext patent program. We couldn't be more excited for these female inventors.

MIT STUDENT INSPIRED BY HIGH SCHOOL INVENTEAM EXPERIENCE

InvenTeam teacher Joann Blumenfeld from Raleigh, North Carolina, is a high school teacher
ONLINE WEBINARS FOR EDUCATORS WHO WANT TO START INVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Lemelson-MIT Program is offering 14 free online webinars every other Thursday this fall at 6:30 p.m. ET for educators interested in implementing minds-on and hands-on activities in their classrooms or afterschool programs. The first webinar kicks off on October 5 and explores the minds-on activity of finding problems in your community.

INVENTEAM ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

We recently caught up with Jonathan Hernandez from the 2014 SOAR (Students on the Academic Rise) High School InvenTeam, located in Lancaster, Calif. to find out where he is now. His InvenTeam developed a blood alcohol detection wristband and we found out his team was awarded a U.S. patent in 2016 from his InvenTeam educator Rachel Thibault, who was profiled in our last newsletter.

INVENTEAMS GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT AND 2018-19 APPLICATIONS OPEN NEXT MONTH

Find out what teams of high school students, teachers and mentors will be awarded up to $10K each to invent a technical solution to a real-world problem on October 24. Our announcement opens up the application process for educators who want to apply for an InvenTeams grant for the following 2018-19 school year.