

Who We Are

The Connecticut Invention Convention (CIC) is an award winning, internationally recognized, 501(c)(3) (not-for-profit) educational organization started in 1983 as part of the Connecticut Educators Network for the Talented and Gifted. The program is open to K-8 students statewide, and is designed to develop, encourage, and enhance a student's Critical Thinking skills through stimulating hands-on activities.

Local teachers provide hands-on instruction using CIC's STEM-based and standards-linked curriculum. Integrated with local, state & national initiatives, CIC enables students to research, analyze and effectively focus on and solve their real-life problems, creating a self-sustained excitement for inquiry & learning. The CIC provides K-8 students with unique means to discover and experience new skill sets and learning techniques, and creatively apply these in their real-life settings, while nurturing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) earlier in their academic career.

Mission Statement

Our goal is to provide the children of Connecticut with interesting, meaningful and age-appropriate opportunities to develop and enhance their critical-thinking skills using creative problem solving techniques. Our mission is to ensure that this fun and esteem-enhancing program instills the creative spirit in each student today and for the rest of his or her lives.

"Attending and being recognized at the state level has really filled my son with a sense of pride and self worth. While he has received many trophies both in martial arts and in sports, I am certain this experience has made him the most confident about his future."

Donna Christensen – A CIC Student's Parent

Who Participates

Since our inception, an estimated 300,000 children, K-8, have experienced locally driven CIC invention programs, with roughly 15,000 students having participated at the state level. Each year, an estimated 100 CT schools, 10,000 students participate. The top 650 young inventors winning locally compete at the state convention in a unique University setting.



Why Schools Participate

Teachers recognize the CIC as an effective tool for students to integrate and exercise all aspects of their educational experience, and to understand and solve real-life problems through creative and effective problem solving skills. Administrators and parents value the natural use of higher order thinking skills and the self-discovery experienced by all students.

"We are attempting to educate students today, so that they will be ready to solve future problems that have not yet been identified, using technologies not yet invented, based on scientific knowledge not yet discovered."

J. J. Lagowski – Talents Unlimited

How to Connect with CIC

Connecticut Invention Convention, Inc.

P.O. Box 230311

Hartford, CT 06123-0311

Phone: (860) 793-5299 or (860) 677-6372

Website: www.ctinventionconvention.org



How Schools Participate

Each year, the CIC invites all Connecticut schools to register, with the mailing of our Fall CIC invitational postcard. The CIC postcard contains information how to register, links to our website for materials, and available teacher training sessions. The website also provides a summary of past events, and other useful information.

Registered schools are provided with an Invention Curriculum containing 5 Essential Lessons, forms, resources, and much more so as to enable a school to effectively teach and hold their own local convention. A DVD with real-life teaching examples is provided.

Students recognized at local conventions then register individually to attend the annual statewide convention, held in early May at University of Connecticut, where they interact with their peers and are judged by practicing professionals from academia and industry.

Who Makes CIC Possible

A dedicated core of volunteer directors coordinates CIC operations, with funding provided by the best of Connecticut's industry and education sectors. All funding and in-kind contributions are used solely for student awards and convention expenses. Donors recognize the value of the CIC as a vehicle to help create tomorrow's "problem-solving" workforce.

If you are interested in volunteering or providing financial support, please contact Charlie Baumgartner, President, at 860-677-6372. Or call the CIC Hotline at (860) 793-5299

