The Collegiate Inventors Competition® was founded in 1990 to encourage and drive innovation and entrepreneurship at the collegiate level. The Competition recognizes and awards students engaged in cutting-edge research and discovery. With the help of our sponsors, we have awarded more than $1 million to the country's most innovative collegiate students.

- The Collegiate Inventors Competition encourages entries from all fields of study, recognizing that the inventive spirit can emerge from any course, any university and any student.
- The Collegiate Inventors Competition is a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is the Presenting Sponsor, with additional support from Arrow Electronics.
- Finalists have the opportunity to present their research and prototypes to the most influential innovators and invention experts in the nation – National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees and USPTO experts – for real-world feedback on optimizing the potential of each invention.
- Winners are selected by the final judging panel and cash prizes are awarded to the top three entries in the Undergraduate and Graduate Divisions.

Competition Details for 2017
- Submission deadline is June 5
- All Finalist teams will earn an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C.
- Final round of judging will take place on Thursday, Nov. 2
- A public Expo and the official Award Ceremony will be held on Friday, Nov. 3 at the USPTO headquarters
- Graduate and Undergraduate winners and their advisors will be awarded cash and prizes ranging from $2,500 to $10,000.

Available Resources:
- Media Room
- www.invent.org
- NIHF Facebook
- NIHF Twitter
- CIC Linkedin
- www.campinvention.org
- Camp Invention Facebook
- Camp Invention Twitter
- www.uspto.gov
- USPTO Facebook
- USPTO Twitter

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National Inventors Hall of Fame
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About Us
The National Inventors Hall of Fame was founded in 1973 in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office to honor the individuals who conceived, patented and advanced the greatest technological achievements of our nation. Since then, the organization has evolved to be the nation's leading nonprofit providing STEM and innovation-focused education programs, competitions, and events. We believe our role as a Hall of Fame is to not only honor the individuals whose inventions have made the world a better place, but also to ensure American ingenuity continues to thrive in the hands of the generations to come. This belief is what drives our mission: to recognize inventors and invention, celebrate our country’s rich, innovative history, inspire creativity, and advance the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship.

“"The Collegiate Inventors Competition stood out from the other awards. We had a chance to talk with established inventors from the National Inventors Hall of Fame and USPTO, and share experiences with collegiate inventors from across the country.”

Nicholas McGill
Electromechanical Engineer, Bresslergroup
2013 Finalist, University of Pennsylvania
Spread the word and encourage students to enter the Collegiate Inventors Competition!

Social media is a powerful tool to disperse the message about the importance of investing in higher education research and innovation. Below are sample posts that you can use on your platforms to encourage university students to enter the 2017 Collegiate Inventors Competition.

Follow the National Inventors Hall of Fame on Facebook and Twitter for Collegiate Inventors Competition updates

Hashtags to Use: #RoadtoCIC #CIC

Follow: @InventorsHOF

Sample Tweets

#CIC is a unique opportunity to compete with innovative students nationwide! Enter today: http://bit.ly/2IU6Adx #RoadtoCIC

Enter your groundbreaking invention in #CIC 2017 to compete for cash prizes! Submissions open: http://bit.ly/2IU6Adx #RoadtoCIC

#CIC is the perfect competition for bright students who are the next generation of #STEM leaders! Apply: http://bit.ly/2IU6Adx #RoadtoCIC

Submit your invention in the #CIC to compete for cash prizes & receive feedback from @InventorsHOF Inductees! http://bit.ly/2IU6Adx #RoadtoCIC

Sample Facebook Posts

Enter your groundbreaking invention in this year's Collegiate Inventors Competition! Not only will you receive feedback from a panel of experts including National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees, you’ll also compete for cash prizes. Enter today: www.invent.org/challenge

Represent your university and present your groundbreaking invention at the 2017 Collegiate Inventors Competition! Receive feedback from a panel of experts - including National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees - and compete for cash prizes. Enter today: www.invent.org/challenge

Have you developed a groundbreaking invention that could potentially shape the future? Enter the 2017 Collegiate Inventors Competition where you’ll have the opportunity to showcase your invention, receive feedback from a panel of experts and potentially win cash prizes. Enter today: www.invent.org/challenge