Congratulations, Chicago Student Invention Convention Finalist!

We are proud to invite you to take part in the online competition!

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DEAR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS,

Your child’s class has been participating in the 2020-2021 Chicago Student Invention Convention (CSIC) program, and your student inventor has been doing a great job identifying problems and inventing solutions. Your student’s project was chosen as a finalist!

In the spirit of problem-solving and innovation, we have great news to share that the Chicago Student Invention Convention has changed to an online-only event, with submissions due on Wednesday, April 28th by 5:00 pm and a live virtual pitch showcase on Saturday, May 1 at 10:00 am.

Students who win at CSIC can advance to the U.S. Nationals Competition, also virtual in 2021.

How can my student participate in the online competition?

Students will create a pitch video (4-6 minutes) to showcase their invention prototype and upload it to YouTube. Videos are due at 5 pm on April 28 for consideration. Students will also submit a logbook and optional visual supplements.

Registration and requirements are available online: https://inventionconvention.chicagoinnovation.com/compete

Please review this packet of information for answers to your questions. If you still have questions, please reach out to your student’s teacher, or to me at csic@chicagoinnovation.com

Thank you for your support!

Allison James
## Important Dates

| Throughout March/April | • Students refine their invention prototypes  
|                        | • Students create a YouTube Pitch video  
|                        | • Students scan or finalize a digital logbook  
|                        | • Students create a PDF of their photos, charts, and visuals |
| Thursday, April 1 | • Registration for CSIC competition opens  
|                    | • You can register early and edit your registration up until the 4/28 deadline.  
|                    | • Registering early helps us know that you plan to participate.  
|                    | • When you register, you will receive a HopIn link to attend the virtual convention.  
|                    | • Do not share your HopIn link. It is unique to you.  
|                    | • You will receive links for guests that you can share with family. |
| Wednesday, April 28 @ 5 pm | • Deadline to finalize your registration with Youtube link to pitch video, logbook, and photo supplement PDF uploaded  
|                        | • If participating in a group invention, each student must register separately |
| Saturday, May 1 | • Use the HopIn link provided to you to log online to the virtual CSIC convention on May 1 at 10 am  
|                | • Join our opening ceremony  
|                | • Go to your virtual booth and give your invention pitch to judges who have watched your video and will give you feedback live  
|                | • Attend the closing ceremony* |

*No winners will be announced May 1. Winners will be reviewed throughout May and will be announced in early June in the Awards Ceremony livestream event (link TBA)
Our Commitment to Equity

I don’t have reliable internet at home. What do I do?

We recognize the limitations of the digital divide and how lack of access to computers and the internet can impact a student’s ability to participate in CSIC’s program remotely. We state our commitment to all CSIC partners and students:

Our Commitment
1) We will work with teachers to identify student finalists who want to create a video and compete, regardless of their access to computers/internet at home.
2) As long as students can:
   - Communicate personal information needed on the registration form
   - Record a pitch video and get that to the hands of teachers or staff
   - Send a physical logbook to teachers or staff to be digitized
   - Send photos or visual supplements to teachers or staff to be digitized at minimum one week before the registration period ends, they can be included in judging for the Chicago Student Invention Convention and do not need to attend the live pitch on HopIn.
3) CSIC staff can work with the teacher/program provider, parents, and student directly to discuss requirements.

What Students/Parents Can Do

If you are a student **who has been chosen as a finalist**, but cannot participate in the May 1 convention on HopIn to receive live feedback from judges due to issues with access to technology or internet at home, **please tell your teacher or communicate with our program manager**.

Your Teacher’s Contact Information:

Phone: __________________

Email: ____________________________

CSIC Program Manager’s Contact Information: csic@chicagoinnovation.com
Prizes

We offer a rotation of prizes, including:

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<tr>
<th>Free coding classes</th>
<th>Museum passes</th>
<th>Aquarium Passes</th>
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**Award Categories:**
- Grades K-3
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade
- After School Award

**Other Award Categories:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patent Award</th>
<th>Filing a non-provisional United States patent application</th>
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<td>THOMPSON COBURN LLP</td>
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<th>Prototype Award</th>
<th>Development of a fully functional professional prototype</th>
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<td>MHUB</td>
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<tr>
<th>Molex Technology &amp; Transformation Award</th>
<th>Leadership recognition: Molex’s CEO will personally review finalists &amp; select</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>molex®</td>
<td>Industry Expertise: Winner receives feedback on the development of their innovation</td>
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| | Virtual Tour & Meet & Greet |
| | Molex Swag Bag |
| | BitSpace Workshop |
| | Admission package to Museum of Science & Industry |
How to Register for the Online Competition

Registration opens 4/1. Entries/Videos can be submitted through 4/28.

By 5 pm on April 28, students must submit the following:

- **YouTube Link to Pitch Video (4-6 minutes)**
  - **Purpose:**
    - A video of students talking about their invention and the process creating it. Shares all the important information about your invention with the judges.
    - See Rubric and Pitch Video documents for more information on video content
    - **Must be PUBLIC or UNLISTED. Not PRIVATE.**

- **Logbook**
  - **Purpose:**
    - Shares inventor’s journey through the invention process with the judges and shows good documentation of the steps of invention
    - See Rubric for more information on logbook content
    - Must be a PDF to submit on ZFairs
    - See website for help creating a PDF from separate photos: [https://inventionconvention.chicagoinnovation.com/compete](https://inventionconvention.chicagoinnovation.com/compete)

- **Supplemental Photos**
  - **Purpose:**
    - Enrich the application with photos of the invention process, prototype, and other relevant visuals
    - Can be referenced (physically or virtually) during the pitch as visual support

Details on how to register online and submit your entry: [https://inventionconvention.chicagoinnovation.com/compete](https://inventionconvention.chicagoinnovation.com/compete)

(Registration opens 4/1/2021)