STUDENT

LEMELSON-MIT

Celebrating innovation, inspiring youth

National Student Prize

APPLICATION DEADLINE
DECEMBER 31, 2013

The Lemelson-MIT National Collegiate Student Prize Competition

Supported by The Lemelson Foundation

The Lemelson-MIT National Collegiate Student Prize Competition is open to teams of inventive undergraduates and individual graduate students. Applicants submit their inventions in categories that represent significant sectors of the economy, which could be reimagined and improved through invention. Inventions can address opportunities in both developed and developing economies.

Eligibility:

Candidates of the Lemelson-MIT National Collegiate Student Prize must:

- Be a full-time matriculated student in the Spring semester of 2014.
- Be a team of undergraduate students from the same university (if applying to the undergraduate prize).
- Consider environmental sustainability as an important factor in their inventive work.
- Serve as an inspiration to young people through creativity, outreach or mentoring activities.
- Own the Intellectual Property of all inventions entered into the competition. (Patents are encouraged but not required).

Judging Criteria:

Students will be evaluated on their:

1. Portfolio of inventions (for graduate students) and single specific invention (per team of undergraduates)
2. Potential for commercialization of invention(s)
3. Demonstrated youth leadership and mentorship

Category-specific screening groups and a prestigious national jury will select winners based on the aforementioned criteria. Winners will be announced in April 2014.

Winners receive:

- $15,000 to the winning graduate student in each of the two prize categories
- $10,000 to the winning undergraduate team in each of the two prize categories
- A national media campaign
- Exposure to investment and business communities
- A trip to MIT for an award celebration in June 2014
- Recognition from MIT

Representative "Cure it!" Prize: Alice Chen (2011 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize)

Invented a new tool to study how the human liver metabolizes drugs and responds to infectious disease – through a mouse with a tissue-engineered human liver.

Representative "Use it!" Prize: Eduardo Torrealba (2013 Lemelson-Illinois Student Prize)

Developed "Plant Link" - a soil-moisture monitoring system that empowers smarter gardening, by alerting users when their plants need to be watered.

Photo credit: Darshan Patel for the Daily Illini

Prize categories are deliberately general to allow students to broadly interpret their problem-based work. The inaugural two categories are: "Cure it! (reimagining healthcare)" and "Use it! (reimagining consumer devices and tools)".

The "Cure it!" Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

"Cure it!" will reward students working on technology-based inventions that can improve healthcare.

The "Use it!" Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

"Use it!" will reward students working on technology-based inventions that can improve consumer devices and tools.

FUTURE PRIZE CATEGORIES COULD INCLUDE:

The "Drive it!" Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

"Drive it!" will reward students working on technology-based inventions that can improve transportation.

The "Eat it!" Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

"Eat it!" will reward students working on technology-based inventions that can improve food and agriculture.

The "Wear it" Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

"Wear it!" will reward students working on technology-based inventions that can improve wearable consumer products (e.g. clothing, jewelry, and footwear).

The "Network it!" Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

"Network it!" will reward students working on technology-based inventions that can improve the delivery of products and services through web-based networks.

Learn more about the Lemelson-MIT National Collegiate Student Prize Competition and begin the application process by visiting:
http://mit.edu/invent/studentprize

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