Activity Report
Young Inventor's Program
New Hampshire
March 2023
Jim Isaak

We had a great set of volunteers for the Young Inventors program this year, albeit a few that got 'snowed out' of participating in the virtual component.
There were 3000 students that participated at the school level, 200 were invited to the Northern New England regional competition (which was the event this last week) and the best in show are invited to go to the National event at the U.S. Patent Office.

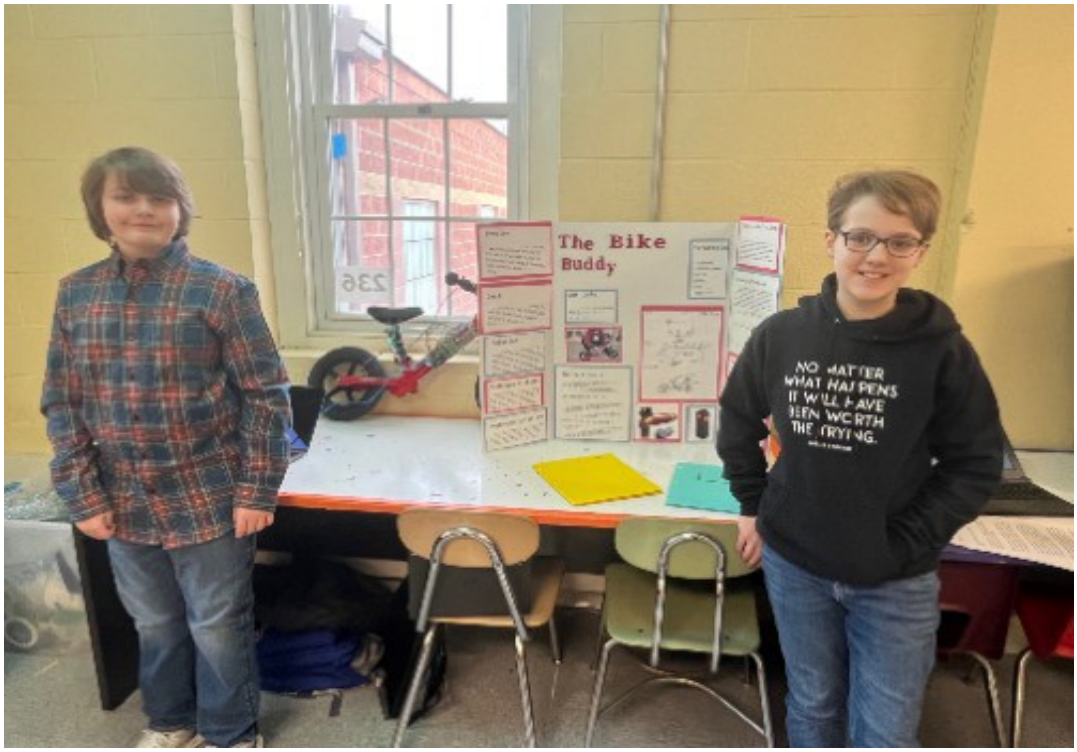
We made two awards (pictures to follow soon along with details once we get these from the folks running the program).

The Electric Award --- for an outstanding project that involves an electrical system ... We saw young folks (2nd grade for example) whose inventions would require electrical systems all the way up to older students who built prototypes with Raspberry Pi, Arduino, sensors, output/control devices, etc. One of those we identified was a third grader who built a sensor based alert system to warn drivers of children/pets approaching the road, and who could articulate how it worked in delightfully complete technical terms. (She won the "Innovation" award -- which has slightly higher standing than our IEEE awards -- and students are limited to two awards.)

The Technology for Humanity award -- for a project that incorporates technology (not just limited to IEEE's fields) with the objective of benefiting humanity. It turns out many of the students have this level of global impact as a consideration for their efforts.

Thank all for helping out with this event. If you have suggestions on how to improve our (IEEE) effectiveness, and/or for the program overall, please send these my way. I hope to share lessons learned as appropriate with both the Young Inventors leadership, and as part of our "corporate memory" going into 2024.

This year's IEEE Electric Award winners are 6th graders from West Newbury MA, Liam and Evelyn, who teamed up to create a system to reduce or prevent bicycle accidents with cars with their invention, The Bike Buddy. “We wanted to create a system that would have turn signals and a distance sensor to tell if cars are close to the biker. This would prevent many injuries while biking on the road” said Liam. The Bike Busy has turn signals mounted on the back which are toggled by buttons on the handle bar as well as a SoNAR unit to detect cars. When the SoNAR unit detects a car, it makes a clicking sound alerting the user, and a light blinks.



This year's Technology for Humanity Award recipient was Bailey, another 6th grader from West Newbury, MA. Bailey invented the Anxiety Answer, to address mental health and wellness challenges. Bailey understands that many people struggle in social settings such as school or work, so she created an easy to carry multi tool which includes a tool for all five senses and has the ability to switch out attachments such as scented cotton balls, a sound recorder and fidget toys, to customize it for the specific user.