



For Immediate Release

2017 NFTE World Series of Innovation, Presented by The Moody's Foundation, calls young innovators to help solve United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

NFTE (Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship) kicks off its annual World Series of Innovation business idea challenge, presented by The Moody's Foundation. This year NFTE asks young people to tap into their creativity and help solve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—global goals that the United Nations has identified as the largest and most serious challenges to humanity. Participants, ages 13–24, have the opportunity to win prizes and publicity and to help make a better world.

NFTE's World Series of Innovation celebrated Global Goals Week, which brought together individuals, governments, businesses, international organizations, civil society, and other partners during the United Nations General Assembly. The purpose of Global Goals Week is to gain momentum and cultivate ideas, solutions, and partnerships that are measuring progress, continuing to drive action on, and promoting accountability for the implementation of the SDGs.

There are six unique Innovation Challenges on the NFTE World Series of Innovation website—<https://innovation.nfte.com/>—and prizes are available for each challenge, ranging from \$250 to \$2,000 each. Sponsors include The Moody's Foundation, Citi Foundation, The Coca-Cola Company, Mastercard, Sheri & Eric Brisson, and Resonance Philanthropies.

"The World Series of Innovation asks young people to apply the entrepreneurial mindset to help solve huge challenges," said Shawn K. Osborne, President and CEO of NFTE. "We were so excited to see last year's ideas, which included kinetically powered micro-modems inside sneakers, solar-charged learning tools, and tech to help refugees. We are deeply grateful to The Moody's Foundation as our presenting sponsor and to our incredible list of challenge sponsors who make the World Series of Innovation possible."

The six Innovation Challenges will focus on SDG #3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG #7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG #8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG #9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG #11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG #14 (Life Below Water).

"The Moody's Foundation is proud to partner with NFTE and to align with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals," said Arlene Isaacs-Lowe, President of The Moody's Foundation. "Entrepreneurship

plays a critical role for our economic welfare and global sustainability and we believe in preparing our youth with the key skill sets for solving the world's most pressing problems.”

NFTE's World Series of Innovation is an online competition. Once signed up, youth innovators and their teachers can download a toolkit based on NFTE's award-winning entrepreneurship curriculum, to assist in completing submissions. Schools and community organizations also receive the resources needed to host an accompanying local Innovation Day.

Completed submissions are due by December 14, 2017. For each of the six Innovation Challenges, there will be two winning teams: the "Adjudicators' Choice" winner selected by the sponsoring organization, and the "People's Choice" winner, chosen by popular online vote in March. Each winning team will receive a prize of \$2,000 to share, and a prize of \$500 for their school or other community nonprofit organization. Runners up will receive a prize of \$250 for the team to share.

About NFTE

NFTE (Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship) is an internationally recognized nonprofit that activates the entrepreneurial mindset in young people. Research shows that the entrepreneurial mindset—skills including innovation, self-reliance, comfort with risk, communication, and problem-solving—prepares young people for lifelong success. Equipped with the mindset, as well as with the business and academic skills that NFTE teaches, NFTE students are ready to thrive in the innovation economy no matter what path they choose. NFTE focuses its work on under-resourced communities, with programs in 19 locations in 9 countries.

For more information, please visit nfte.com, like NFTE on Facebook at [Facebook.com/NFTE](https://www.facebook.com/NFTE), and follow NFTE on Twitter at [@NFTE](https://twitter.com/NFTE)

The Moody's Foundation

Moody's is an essential component of the global capital markets, providing credit ratings, research, tools and analysis that contribute to transparent and integrated financial markets.

Built on the recognition that a company grows stronger by helping others, The Moody's Foundation works to enhance its communities and the lives of its employees by providing grants and engaging in community service in local neighborhoods. The Moody's Foundation, established in 2002 by Moody's Corporation, partners with nonprofit organizations to support initiatives such as education in the fields of mathematics, finance, and economics, as well as workforce development, civic affairs, and arts and culture. For more information, please visit <http://www.moody.com/Pages/itc003.aspx>

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