



## EY Announces 3-Year Commitment to Help NFTE Launch the Entrepreneurial Generation

*EY sets ambitious goals for volunteer service in a strategic collaboration with NFTE to prepare young people for the future of work*

(New York, NY) September 5, 2018 — [NFTE](#) (Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship) today announced a three-year strategic collaboration with [Ernst & Young LLP](#) (EY) that will support NFTE's mission to activate the entrepreneurial mindset in youth from under-resourced communities—preparing them for the dynamic future of work, which is fast-changing and increasingly independent and skills-based.

As part of their Equity Investor level sponsorship, EY has ambitious goals to increase volunteer service hours by EY people and implementing a joint thought leadership framework. Key components of the collaboration include:

- EY sponsorship of the **NFTE Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge Series**, a nationwide series of Shark Tank-style business plan and pitch competitions with local, regional and national elimination rounds drawing nearly 20,000 student competitors annually.
- EY sponsorship of **NFTE World Series of Innovation** challenges, an online competition that invites teams of young innovators across the globe to tackle business challenges aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and other 21st century business problems.
- Opportunities for community service through EY's annual nationwide day of service: **EY Connect Day**. This year EY Connect Days will focus on helping NFTE students develop their business ideas for [World Series of Innovation challenges](#).
- EY sponsorship of **NFTE's Entrepreneurial Mindset Index** (EMI), an innovative assessment tool for measuring the growth of the entrepreneurial mindset, and EMI-related thought leadership projects including joint presentations at academic and industry conferences. NFTE and EY/Parthenon will be co-presenting key findings from new EMI research at the [Global Youth Economic Opportunities Summit](#) in Washington, DC, later this month.

"At EY we know entrepreneurs and innovators drive economic growth," says David Jolley, EY Americas Growth Markets Leader. " Entrepreneurial thinkers are key to building a better working

world and, ultimately, to creating a more vibrant and inclusive society. That's why we are so committed to NFTE's mission. When we help young people activate their entrepreneurial mindset we're setting them up for success in business and in life. That's good for all of us."

"Deepening our longstanding relationship makes sense on every level," adds Shawn Osborne, President and CEO of NFTE. "EY has supported NFTE for almost 20 years now. It's through their generous support that we have been able to develop our Entrepreneurial Mindset Index. EY's vision, leadership and creativity inform our collaboration. We're also grateful for the tremendous personal commitment EY employees make to NFTE. Every year their people step up, giving thousands of volunteer hours to coach NFTE students on their business plans and pitches, serve as expert judges at NFTE competitions, and as Board members. EY employees are making a real difference in the lives of young people through skills-based volunteering and mentoring."

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### **About EY**

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This press release has been issued by Ernst & Young LLP, the member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited serving clients in the United States.

### **About NFTE**

NFTE is an internationally recognized nonprofit that activates the entrepreneurial mindset in young people. NFTE's Entrepreneurship Pathway program integrates the development of the entrepreneurial mindset with academic and industry skills to ensure that all NFTE youth are career-ready. 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 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. Through its nationwide network of U.S. offices, NFTE programs reached almost 35,000 students in over 1000 schools last school year. Partnerships in eight other countries allowed NFTE to serve an additional 40,000 young people internationally. Learn more at [www.nfte.com](http://www.nfte.com).

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