

Celebrating 10 Years!



Our Mission

The Leonard Gelfand Center for Service Learning & Outreach supports activities that enable Carnegie Mellon students, faculty and staff to use their energy and expertise to improve the quality of life, motivate learners of all ages, and solve problems in the community. We facilitate partnership development with individuals, school districts and organizations in Pennsylvania and beyond to design and implement programs and service learning course activities. STEM education outreach programs are our priority.



CMU students present with the Leonard Gelfand Center at the Carnegie Science Center during SciTech Days.

2006

In 2006 the Leonard Gelfand Center for Service Learning and Outreach was dedicated, the mission being to develop and strengthen university-community partnerships with a focus on K-12 STEM programs. The Center was made possible by a gift from CMU alumnus, Mark Gelfand, MCS '73, pictured below with his uncle and the Center's namesake, Leonard Gelfand.



2007



The Leonard Gelfand Center assumed responsibility for interactions with the Pennsylvania Department of Education related to Act 48 Continuing Professional Education for Teachers in non-credit programs conducted at Carnegie Mellon. The Center maintains the university's approval status with the state.

2008

To replace an aging passenger van, the Leonard Gelfand Center purchased a new 25-passenger bus. This enabled the Leonard Gelfand Center and CMU to have a greater reach in the Pittsburgh area. Students, faculty and staff used the bus at no cost for K-12 outreach and service related events and activities.





A Message from Dr. Judith Hallinen, Assistant Vice Provost for Educational Outreach and Director of the Leonard Gelfand Center for Service Learning and Outreach.

We are grateful to Mark Gelfand, MCS'73, who endowed the Leonard Gelfand Center for Service Learning and Outreach to create a permanent structure to sustain educational outreach at CMU. As the director, I take the stewardship of this fund very seriously and strive to create programs that take advantage of Carnegie Mellon expertise to benefit both the community and the university. The Gelfand Center creates and implements activities that help K-12 students to develop a love for science, mathematics and technology. Educators attend our professional development programs to gain accurate and up-to-date information about STEM careers and pathways to those careers. These teachers make the learning of content more relevant for their students as they connect news about CMU research initiatives to classroom lessons.

The Leonard Gelfand Center supports the university through work which includes maintaining partnerships with external groups, assisting with broader impacts strategies to enhance proposal competitiveness, and expanding opportunities for CMU students to gain practical experience through service and outreach activities.

I am inspired by the CMU faculty, students and staff who dedicate time and expertise to make a difference in the lives of so many individuals in the community. The Leonard Gelfand Center is proud to partner with you as you carry out this important work!

Teachers from Western PA and beyond attend Leonard Gelfand Center workshops to expand their content knowledge and to learn about cutting edge research conducted at Carnegie Mellon. These mutually beneficial interactions assist teachers who share up-to-date information and implement new activities in the classroom, enhancing the educational experiences of their K-12 students. CMU faculty develop effective broader impacts strategies for NSF proposals using information about curriculum connections suggested by the teachers.

Right: Teachers participate in a Materials Science workshop presented by Dr. Lisa Porter's Lab.





Carnegie Mellon students plan and implement one-time and multi-session educational workshops with the help of the Leonard Gelfand Center. These experiences provide academically enriching programs for K-12 students while supporting the personal and professional growth of the CMU students.

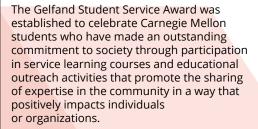
Left: CMU student leaders from the Road to Science series pause for a photo.

2009



Leonard Kisslinger (Physics) and Linda Flower (English) were the first recipients of the annual Mark Gelfand Award for Educational Outreach, given to a member of the university community who has combined sustained, community service with academic coursework and a deliberate process of student reflection to enhance learning and teach social responsibility to students while improving some aspect of life in the community.

2010





2011



A mini-grant was provided to two students who traveled to Rwanda to support the "Goals & Plans for Agahozo Shalom Youth Village's IT Infrastructure." The activity was part of the Technology Consulting in the Global Community program, coordinated by Joe Mertz, faculty, Information Systems and the Heinz College.

Leonard Gelfand Center by the numbers...

- Annually since 2007, over 4,000 Act 48 hours have been processed for PA educators
- Over 3,300 Criminal, Child Abuse, and FBI Clearances* have been requested through the Leonard Gelfand Center to certify individuals to work with children
- 9 faculty members have received the annual Mark Gelfand Award for Educational Outreach
- 21 students have been recipients of the Gelfand Student Service Award since 2010
- Approximately 30,000 miles have been driven by Leonard Gelfand Center buses over the
 past 10 years in an effort to transport CMU students, faculty and staff to conduct educational
 outreach and service learning in the community
- Since its inception in January of 2015 to the fall of 2016, Gelfand Outreach programs have served 1076 students in the community with 97 CMU faculty members, staff and students presenting 80 classes and workshops
- Leonard Gelfand Center initiatives have impacted **over 40,000 people** through community events, hands-on activities and school visits since 2006

*Prior to 2015, clearances required by PA Act153 for CMU students, faculty and staff were requested by the Leonard Gelfand Center.



President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll

Carnegie Mellon faculty, staff and students participate in numerous educational outreach and service activities that benefit individuals and organizations outside of the university. The Leonard Gelfand Center compiles data and submits the university's annual application to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. CMU has been recognized on the Honor Roll annually since 2007. We are proud to be at an institution where each year, students contribute more than 210,000 hours to the community through service learning courses, student service organizations and other volunteer activities!

2012

Dr. Judith Hallinen chaired the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) Local Arrangements Committee. The Gelfand Center coordinated campus tours for participants, conducted a hands-on exhibit in the ISEF Expo and presented the first Leonard Gelfand Center sponsored awards to ISEF finalists.



2013



The Leonard Gelfand Center hosted Educator Professional Development programs including: Green Communications, Statics and the long-running What is Research? program. Undergraduate members of the Society of Women Engineers shared information about engineering with high school teachers.

2014

Leon "Pete" Smith and William Taylor, bus drivers for the Leonard Gelfand Center were recipients of the 2014 CMU Andy Award for Community Contributions.





CMU Faculty Member Dr. Jack Beuth and graduate students in his Additive Manufacturing lab have conducted several Leonard Gelfand Center workshops for both educators and children.

Special thanks to donors that have supported our efforts over the years including...

Mark Gelfand, MCS '73
Bernard Meisner, MCS '71
Paul Walker and Family
Paul Kelly (CIT '77) and James Kelly
Siemens Foundation
Alumni Donors
Anonymous Donors
and Many More!



A CMU student instructs the hands-on Gelfand Outreach class, "Why Things Fall Down".



A Leonard Gelfand Center tutor interacts with students during an in-class lesson at Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy.

2015

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Focused on sharing information about Carnegie Mellon research with a wide-ranging K-12 audience and building on decades of successful programs such as Bridges, C-MITES and Road to Research, Gelfand Outreach (GO) programs began in January of 2015. GO offers dozens of Saturday STEM workshops each fall and spring along with week-long classes in the summer!

2016 and Beyond!



supporting the campus community for years to come!