

**For Immediate Release**

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**For More Information:**

Susan Carpenter, Director of Marketing and Communications

Charlotte Latin School

704.846.7252

[susan.carpenter@charlottelatin.org](mailto:susan.carpenter@charlottelatin.org)

**Charlotte Latin School Educator Recognized with Lemelson-MIT Excite Award**

*Morrow travels to MIT for invention education professional development*



**Charlotte, N.C.** – Charlotte Latin School Middle School engineering teacher Barbara Morrow was recently awarded a Lemelson-MIT Excite Award. This award is given annually to a select group of educators across the country who have applied to receive a [Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam](#) grant for the following school year and have been selected as a finalist. Award recipients participate in invention education learning opportunities as part of an all-expenses paid trip to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) for the Lemelson-MIT Program’s annual [EurekaFest](#), a multi-day invention celebration in mid-June.

“Barbara is a creative and dedicated educator who is passionate about engaging students in inquiry-based learning and problem solving. Barbara has twenty years’ experience as a master teacher of science as well as innovation and design courses,” says Latin’s Head of Middle School Debbie Lamm.

Educators are selected for this award based on their capacity to lead a year-long, open-ended invention project with students at their school. At EurekaFest, Excite Award recipients meet and are inspired by [current InvenTeams](#), teams of high school students, teachers and mentors that received grants of up to \$10,000 each to invent technological solutions to real-world problems. Morrow will see the InvenTeam projects, learn more about the InvenTeam experience and attend hands-on workshops and discussions led by MIT professors about invention - unique technological solutions to real world problems.

“Excite Award educators who attend EurekaFest leave the event prepared to ignite an interest among high school students in science, math, engineering and invention,” said Leigh Estabrooks, invention education officer from the Lemelson-MIT Program. “They gain new techniques to empower their students through problem solving and encourage a sustainable culture of invention in their school and community.”

Morrow initiated the InvenTeam application process in the spring of 2017 and will be invited to submit a final application for the InvenTeam grant after attending EurekaFest that will be due in September. She will work with the students throughout the summer to finalize Latin's grant application. Morrow will also reach out to community members with expertise in fields related to the problem that the students plan to address through a technological invention for insight and guidance on how their invention can best serve the community.

A prestigious panel of judges composed of educators, researchers, staff and alumni from MIT, as well as former Lemelson-MIT award winners, will assemble in the fall and select the final InvenTeam grantees.

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More information on the Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam initiative and Excite Awards can be found [here](#).

#### **ABOUT CHARLOTTE LATIN SCHOOL**

Founded in 1970, Charlotte Latin School is an independent, coeducational, non-sectarian, college-preparatory, day school serving approximately 1,400 students in transitional kindergarten through grade twelve. Charlotte Latin does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, sexual orientation or national origin in the administration of its educational programs, admissions policies, employment practices or other school-administered programs. For more information, contact Susan Carpenter at [704.846.7252](tel:704.846.7252) or [susan.carpenter@charlottelatin.org](mailto:susan.carpenter@charlottelatin.org) or visit [www.charlottelatin.org](http://www.charlottelatin.org).

#### **ABOUT THE LEMELSON-MIT PROGRAM**

The Lemelson-MIT Program celebrates outstanding inventors and inspires young people to pursue creative lives and careers through invention.

Jerome H. Lemelson, one of U.S. history's most prolific inventors, and his wife Dorothy founded the Lemelson-MIT Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1994. It is funded by The Lemelson Foundation and administered by the School of Engineering at MIT, an institution with a strong ongoing commitment to creating meaningful opportunities for K-12 STEM education. For more information, visit [Lemelson.MIT.edu](http://Lemelson.MIT.edu).

#### **ABOUT THE LEMELSON FOUNDATION**

Based in Portland, The Lemelson Foundation uses the power of invention to improve lives. Inspired by the belief that invention can solve many of the biggest economic and social challenges of our time, the Foundation helps the next generation of inventors and invention-based businesses to flourish. The Lemelson Foundation was established in the early 1990s by prolific inventor Jerome Lemelson and his wife Dorothy. To date the Foundation has made grants totaling over \$200 million in support of its mission. For more information, visit <http://lemelson.org>.