NCI

OPPORTUNITY . GROWTH . SUCCESS .

Annual Report

FY 2020–2021

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Greetings from Leadership

I am pleased to once again have the opportunity to share New College Institute's annual report.

Fiscal year 2021 was like none other thanks to the lingering effects of COVID 19, yet we continue to make great strides toward our goal of becoming a premier rural center for innovation, workforce training, certification, and academic excellence.

This year's report offers a glimpse of what the dedication and hard work of our Board of Trustees, staff, faculty, industry and university partners, students, and broader community leaders have accomplished.

It is a privilege to share this update with you and thank you for your support. We are grateful to have had another outstanding year at NCI, and as they say, we are just getting warmed up!

Karen Jackson
Interim Executive Director, New College Institute

Letter from Board Chair

As we reflect upon this past year and the effects of a worldwide pandemic altering the way we work, play and live, I am proud to say that despite these extraordinarily challenging circumstances, New College Institute's commitment to student success and community engagement has never wavered.

New College Institute continues to cultivate partnerships with our K-12, higher education, and industry leaders to create new educational opportunities that will not only create a ready workforce pipeline for the economic revitalization of our region, but will also provide real financial opportunities that will help to greatly improve the lives of our students.

During the past five years, NCI has reaped the benefits of having a dedicated and energetic staff as well as a results-driven Board of Directors working to implement new and innovative programs, trainings and opportunities that you will discover in this Annual Report.

Together, we have made numerous accomplishments including, but not limited to:

- Hosting the region's first virtual CyberPatriot Cyber Camp with more than 50 middle and high school participants from across the nation.
- Launching a new website and implementing new logo & branding
- Record Telehealth enrollment from increase in demand caused by the pandemic
- Creation of The Mid-Atlantic Wind Training Alliance and offering GWO-certified turbine technician trainings
- Collaboration with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to offer cloud practitioner training

Our affiliations with Virginia's universities and community college system continue to flourish, and we are committed to further strengthening our relationships with Virginia businesses. Based upon these mission-critical partnerships, along with the recent addition of eight new team members, you can expect even more programming to come to NCI in the future.

As we look ahead in these uncertain times, ensuring access to education has never been more challenging, or more rewarding. The success of our students and our community depends on those who support our mission to revitalize our economy and enhance the quality of life both in Southern Virginia and across the Commonwealth.

Because of your support, we are able to reach more students, establish new and innovative educational programs, be responsive to the needs of businesses, and strengthen our regional economy.

Thank you for your continued support of NCI.

Senator William M. Stanley Jr.
Board Chair

NCI Staff & Board

LEADERSHIP

Karen Jackson,
Interim Executive Director

ADMINISTRATION/ COORDINATION

Neil Easley,
IT Support Specialist

Kenny Elmore,
Facilities Manager

James Goggins,
Security Staff

Teh-Way Lee,
Manager of Technology Integration

John Maxwell,
Coordinator of Health and Human Services

Chris Niblett,
Human Resources & Board Relations Coordinator

Brian Pace,
Coordinator of Advanced Manufacturing

Christina Reed,
Asst Director of Finance & Operations

Joann Shellhammer-Fox,
Finance & Operations Analyst

Marshall Thomas,
Security Supervisor

MARKETING AND EVENTS

Rebekah Hughes,
Marketing & Website Administrator

Erica McDaniel,
Events and Administrative Program Coordinator

Kim Phillips,
Public Relations Specialist

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS & OUTREACH

Steve Keyser,
Coordinator of Educational & Community Engagement

Chris McDonald,
Coordinator of Student Engagement

Ryan Orton,
Coordinator of Business Relations & Alumni Outreach

FACULTY / INSTRUCTORS

Janet Copenhaver,
Technology Instructor

Clifford House,
Quality Assurance Instructor

Dunieski Otano,
AWS/Azure Certified IT & Program Instructor

CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAM

Stacey Davis,
Customer Service Receptionist

Christina Easley,
Customer Service Receptionist

Terresa Leopold,
Administrative Support Specialist

Karol Quezada,
Customer Service Receptionist

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About NCI

NCI is dedicated to being a rural innovation center for workforce training, certification, and educational programs. We are proud to create opportunities for more people, from more backgrounds, to find the workforce training and education they need to advance their careers.

We offer best-in-class training and education for cutting-edge careers ranging from cybersecurity to programming, from business to education, and telehealth to renewable energy. As new opportunities and industries arise, NCI develops partnerships that create pathways to entry.

With online programs and on-site classes located in Martinsville, NCI offers flexible opportunities that advance education and career goals, and provides guidance and support to achieve success.

We foster unparalleled opportunities to attain the education and career skills needed to succeed and prosper in today's rapidly changing global economy.

Navigating A New Normal

While the lasting effects of COVID-19 have created a new normal at NCI – it is not slowing us down. The NCI team quickly adapted, working tirelessly to implement innovative ways to support students, nurture relationships with the community, and collaborate with partners and stakeholders – all while continuing to provide the professional services and programs people have come to expect.

This past year has demonstrated the power of coming together and proving that perseverance, dedication, and teamwork are essential to success. With a new year on the horizon, New College Institute will continue to thoughtfully plan and execute quality educational programs, industry relevant workforce development training, and serve as a catalyst for economic and community transformation.

Renewables

In January, 2021, NCI completed its final step towards becoming a Global Wind Organisation (GWO)-certified training provider, becoming the first facility in the Commonwealth to offer Basic Safety Training (BST) and Basic Technical Training (BTT). NCI is one of only three sites in North America to offer BTT. The Global Wind Organisation is a non-profit body founded by wind turbine manufacturers and owners, that aims to achieve an injury-free work environment in the wind turbine industry through the deployment of common international standards for safety training and emergency procedures.

Technician Training

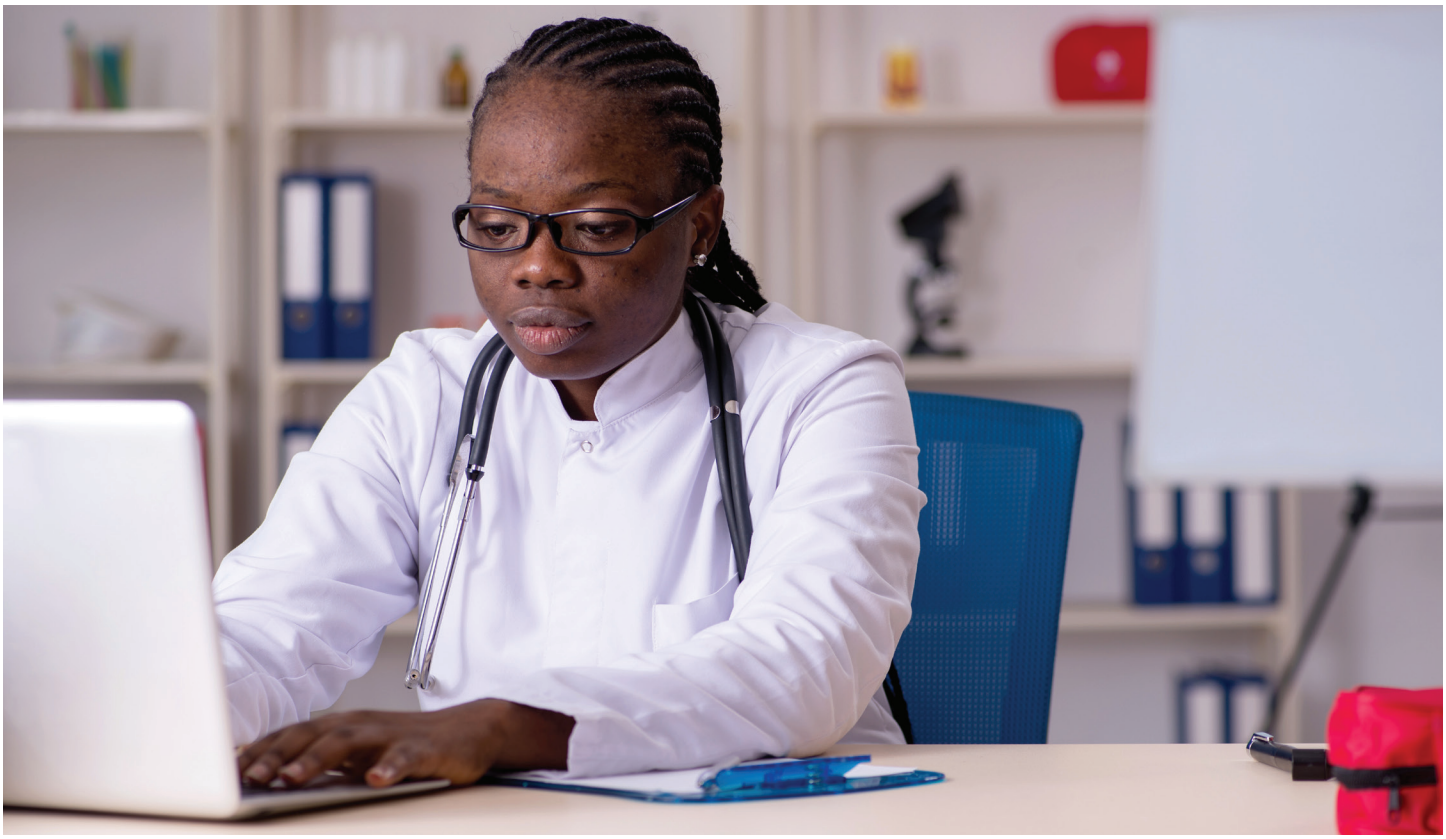
NCI partnered with Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy to achieve GWO certification. With its portfolio of onshore and offshore wind turbines and its own GWO certified training center in Orlando, Florida, Siemens Gamesa provided assistance with facilities, equipment, systems and trainers.

Basic Safety Training provides participants with basic knowledge and skills to enable them to work safely in the wind turbine industry. This course covers First Aid, Fire Awareness, Working at Heights and Manual Handling. Basic Technical Training consists of three modules: Electrical, Mechanical and Hydraulic.

New College Institute offers two GWO-certified instructors providing more flexible and on-demand training to meet industry needs – in addition to regularly scheduled training opportunities throughout the year.

Health Science & Services

NCI's health science programs provide opportunities for continuing education, career advancement, & professional development, equipping medical professionals to meet the rapidly growing demand for health education.



STAR Telehealth

New College Institute continues to expand its reach within the telehealth industry. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the Southside Telehealth Training Academy and Resource Center (STAR) awarded nearly 3,000 telemental health certifications to students across the United States.

The telehealth program works with participants working in a range of roles, including physicians, nurses, paramedics, social workers, licensed professional counselors, IT specialists, and health care administrators.

Participants gain knowledge and skills on the use of video-conferencing technologies in the clinical setting and remote patient monitoring in the home setting.

NCI addresses the shift in healthcare practice and care coordination by delivering an innovative training program with multiple academic partners to facilitate incorporation of knowledge of telehealth into medical training and preparation of the workforce.

NCI also collaborates with leading telehealth subject matter experts from centers at UVA, VCU and the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; and with leading technology companies such as Vytal Solutions.

NEW COLLEGE INSTITUTE
STAR TELEHEALTH

Workforce Training & Certifications

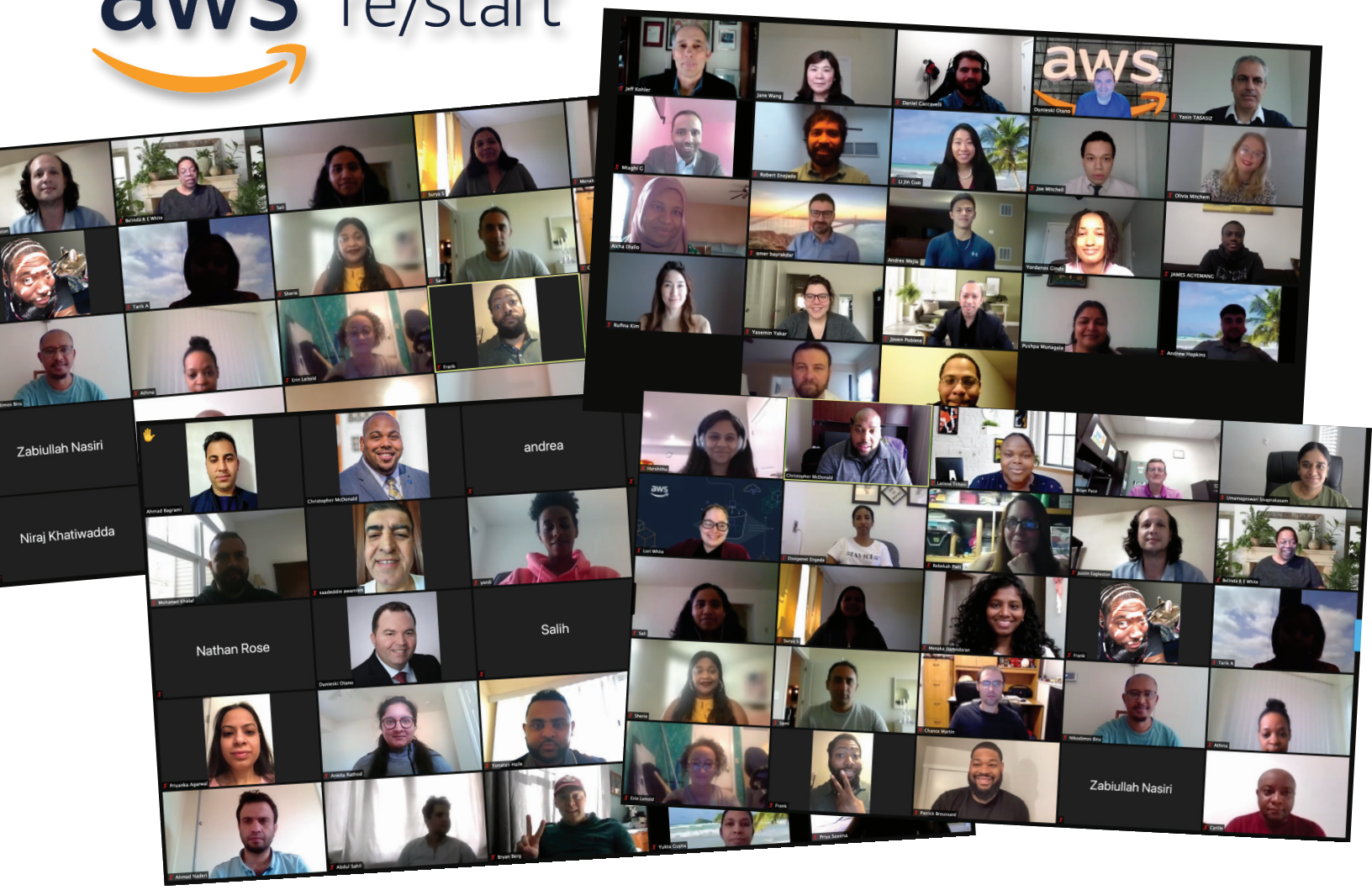
New College Institute has made great advancements serving as a rural innovation center providing technology education, manufacturing training, and consulting services and programs that contribute to continuous workforce, technology development and business success.

AWS Re/start

NCI completed four AWS (Amazon Web Services) cohorts over the past year, providing free, virtual courses in cloud computing. Upon completion, participants were able to apply for entry- level cloud roles, such as cloud operations, site reliability, infrastructure support, and technical adjacent business support functions.

Over the course of the year, AWS Re/start at NCI received 950 applications from across the country and graduated 96 students from the intense program with 50 of these becoming certified. The majority of graduating students were Virginia residents with additional graduates from Alabama, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Wyoming. Virginia graduates came from 35 cities from across the state.

aws re/start



Training Center

The Rural Innovation Training Center at NCI continues to offer certifications and manufacturing training services that contribute to continuous workforce and technology development and business success. Trainings offered during the year included OSHA, Certified Production Technician, Metrology, and CNC Operator Training, in addition to GWO certifications in Basic Safety and Basic Technical Training.

NCI's advanced manufacturing team, innovative solutions, and low cost pricing help companies of all sizes access the training and pipeline development needed to remain economically competitive.

Veterans/Military Support

NCI continues to support and encourage veteran training and education, and has taken initial steps in the process toward becoming a GI Bill/Veteran benefits-approved organization.

Additionally, in affiliation with RecruitMilitary, over the past year NCI has added more than 7200 veterans to its growing list of contacts seeking education and/or employment.

University Programs

NCI continues to establish partnerships with leading Virginia colleges and universities while renewing commitments with existing, long-term partners.

Together with these institutions, NCI offers innovative and flexible ways for students to attain skills and credentials they need to succeed in new and emerging fields. During the pandemic, many of these partner institutions transitioned to online and distance learning.

Bluefield University

Bluefield University
Master of Arts in Counselor Education

NCI partners with Bluefield to promote access to graduate-level training in Counselor Education in both clinical mental health and school counseling. The Master of Arts in Counselor Education program focuses on the development of highly-skilled mental health professionals that provide comprehensive mental health care to people in need.

Students have access to flexible programming options, online and hybrid delivery, with intensives held on-campus in Bluefield and at NCI.

University of Virginia

University of Virginia
Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies

NCI was pleased to form a new partnership with the University of Virginia this year. Our efforts together have focused primarily on the UVA's Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS). This is an online degree program designed for adults seeking a flexible program to complete their undergraduate degree while balancing work and family commitments.

Radford University

Radford University
Master of Science in Strategic Communications

This year brought an exciting new partnership with Radford. The graduate degree allows students to prepare for careers across various areas of expertise and industries, ranging from government, to industry, to education. The course work includes a wide range of communications from public relations, political communication, training and development, and interactive media and analytics, etc. Coursework is completed via online instruction or streamed via interactive video to NCI.

William & Mary

William & Mary
Center for Online Learning at The Raymond A. Mason School of Business at William & Mary

This year, NCI was honored to launch a new partnership with William & Mary's Raymond A. Mason School of Business. This new strategic partnership provides online learning opportunities for those pursuing business education in the southern Virginia region and beyond.

James Madison University

James Madison University
Master's Degree in Education

Through NCI's relationship with JMU, qualified candidates can participate in a Master's Degree in Education. Participants are prepared for leadership positions in school and district offices and ready to undertake critical roles of interpreters, facilitators, and initiators of educational change leading to effective schools and increased student achievement for all children.

Longwood University

Longwood University

NCI partners with Longwood to offer programs in education including Bachelor's in Elementary Education & K–6 Licensure, and Bachelor's in Middle School Education.

Virginia Tech

Virginia Tech
Educational Leadership Doctoral Program

Working with the Virginia Tech Educational Leadership Doctoral Program, NCI helps prepare aspiring educational administrators. Graduates leave with the skills they need to lead ethically, initiate school reform, investigate issues in educational policy, communicate with diverse constituents, and improve the learning and prospects of all K–12 students.

Events & Community Engagement

Since the finalization of its purchase in October, 2020, the Baldwin building has continued its legacy of being a welcoming, state-of-the-art facility for advanced training & education, conferences and community events.

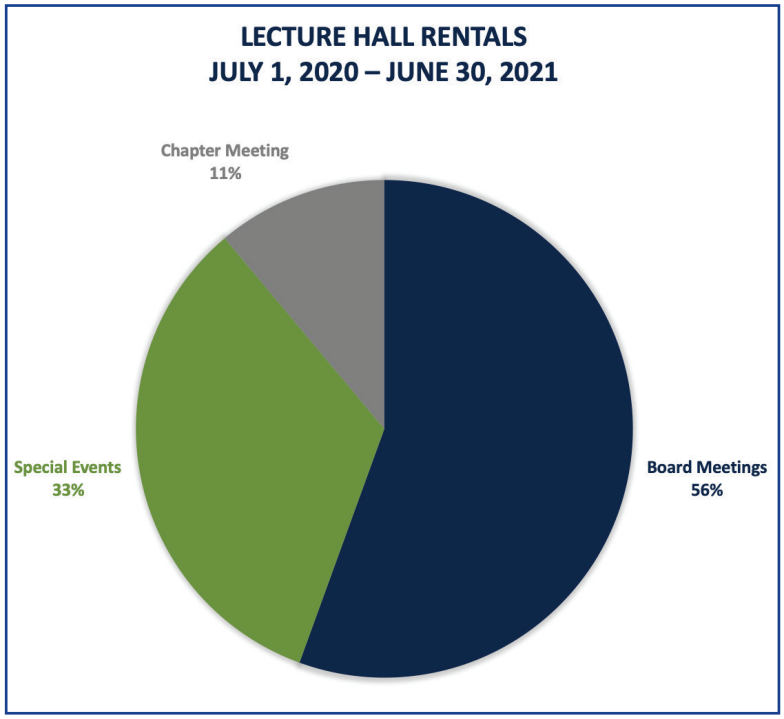
Learning Is ForEver (LIFE)

The LIFE program (Learning is ForEver) welcomed a number of programs over the past year in a mostly virtual setting due to safety precautions from COVID-19.

Some of the program highlights from the 11 hosted events included "The Dangers of Sugar" with Janet Steward, and "Decluttering Your Home" with Glenda Clark, AARP.

Additionally, New College Institute hosted a blood drive in March with participants donating a total of 18 units of blood to the American Red Cross.

NCI has scheduled more blood drives for 2021-2022, in addition to another full schedule of virtual and in-person LIFE events planned for the year.



Baldwin Building Activity

In addition to LIFE events, the Baldwin Building Lecture Hall hosted 9 rentals from July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 (building closed to public until March 2021).

Outside events and activities included board meetings, special events (birthday party, baby shower, & shareholders meeting) and a chapter meeting.

The Baldwin Building also hosted visits from administrators at Hampton Roads' New Horizons Regional Education Center and members of the UVA Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership. In May, the Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia's Scholarship Awards Ceremony was held outside in the Baldwin Building parking lot due to COVID-19 restrictions.

K-12 Outreach

Reading for Life

New College Institute provided a book for every kindergarten student attending school in Martinsville City, Henry County, and Patrick County through the annual Reading for Life program. While in-person reading sessions were not possible this year due to COVID, community leaders recorded reading activities that were shared virtually with local schools.

Reading for Life promotes a solid foundation of reading and a love of learning in the hope that all students will become avid readers, a known indicator for educational success.

Kindergartener Emery Taylor from Patrick Henry Elementary School remarked, "I loved when NCI came to read to us and then gave us a new book. It was so kind! It was awesome!"

This year, the Martinsville – Henry County Chamber of Commerce's Education Foundation joined the effort as a funder and partner of the program. NCI provides books to 700-800 kindergarten students annually.

Pop-Up Summer Camp

This year, COVID precluded NCI from hosting our regular in-person camps and school visits to give out books and supplies. Recognizing the importance of keeping our kids learning and engaged, we were determined to find alternative methods. By shifting effort to a drive-thru style event, "Pop-Up Summer Camp", NCI successfully distributed free books, art, and STEM activities to 250 local participants. Local businesses also contributed coupons for free and discounted items.

CyberPatriot CyberCamp

New College Institute (NCI) hosted its first CyberPatriot CyberCamp for middle and high school students in July with students earning top honors. Fifty-five students from eleven states engaged in interactive, fun sessions where they learned about the importance of cybersecurity and how to protect their personal devices and information from outside threats. The week concluded with a national championship amongst CyberCamps where NCI's student campers ranked in the top 10 percent, and one student placed 10th out of 558 students.

CyberPatriot is a National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association to inspire K-12 students toward careers in cybersecurity or other STEM disciplines critical to our nation's future.

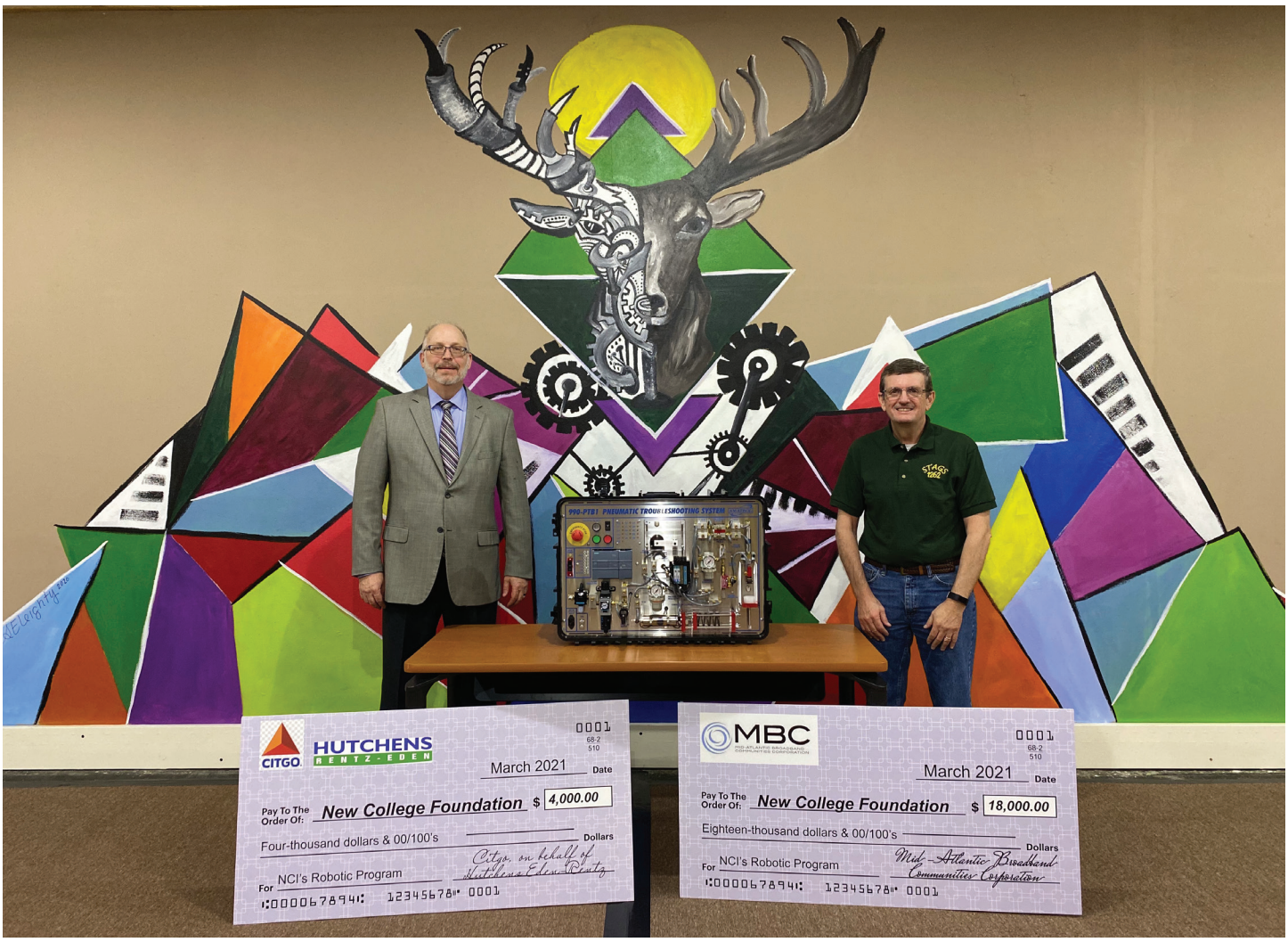
At the end of CyberCamp, each camper received a certificate of completion and CyberPatriot memorabilia.

"I really enjoyed doing the cybercamp. It was empowering for me to be able to better understand the security measures that many companies have in place, and I felt better prepared for not just a career in cybersecurity, but any career."
– Katherine Johnson

FIRST Robotics

The NCI-sponsored FIRST robotics team – known as the STAGS (Students Technologically Advancing for Greater Success)– began its 18th year of competition, continuing its successful efforts despite the COVID challenges.

The program pairs local high school students with adult mentors from a variety of occupations, including engineers, programmers, CAD operators, teachers, and pharmacists. Mentors volunteer their time to create "real world" scenarios for students. The team has received multiple district and regional honors and is a 6-time FIRST World Championship Qualifier.



This year, the STAGS team was awarded $32,000 in grants and contributions through the New College Foundation. Awards were provided through grants from CITGO Petroleum (on behalf of Hutchens Eden-Rentz) for $4,000; Truist Foundation, $10,000; and Mid-Atlantic Broadband Corp granting $18,000.

Contributions were used for the purchase of two Pneumatic Troubleshooting Systems which enable STAGS students, as well as other local teams, to learn how to find the cause of a malfunction in pneumatics - which are oftentimes a major component of the robot.

The team is comprised of students from Bassett, Magna Vista, and Martinsville High Schools, as well as local home school students.

NCI

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