Mission

To develop the ability of young people globally to design and achieve positive futures through problem solving using critical and creative thinking!

We operationalize our mission by conducting a dynamic international academic program involving thousands of students annually from around the world. Creativity pioneer Dr. E. Paul Torrance’s vision and research provide the foundation for our competitive and non-competitive programs via a six-step model which teaches critical and creative thinking, problem solving, and decision making.

2022-23
Board of Trustees

FPSPI is led by an enthusiastic and active Board of Trustees who share their insights and expertise to help advance our mission.

Their perspective and collective decades of experience are critical to enabling our ability to provide the highest level of educational experience to the students in FPS.

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Future Problem Solving Program International, Inc.
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This report covers the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Future Problem Solving Program International (FPSPI) is a nonprofit, 501(C)(3), tax-exempt educational organization.

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Platinum Transparency 2023
Candid.
In 2024, Future Problem Solving Program International (FPSPI) will celebrate its 50th anniversary. In this upcoming golden year, we are excited to honor our history as we continue to embrace our mission to prepare students for tomorrow. This annual report serves to document the 2022-23 fiscal year’s accomplishments and to set the stage for what lies ahead.

Our June 2023 International Conference hosted over a thousand of attendees from 11 countries across the globe – Australia, Austria, Canada, China, New Zealand, Portugal, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and the United States of America. These 4th -12th grade students earned a coveted invitation to the conference by qualifying through local competitions in which they demonstrated their ability to apply critical analysis, creativity, futuristic thinking and research to the creative problem solving process.

FPSPI is uniquely positioned with decades of research and highly engaging curriculum to not only enhance the student experience but equip today’s students with transferable skills for their futures. We ask all of you who love Future Problem Solving to help us in our efforts to empower young people to create a better world. Please reach out to individuals or corporations you know who could support our work - in small or large ways - and put them in contact with us. If you have the means to donate yourself, please consider FPSPI when planning gifts to charitable causes - even a few dollars, yuan, euros, baht, lira, or won will make a difference for our students.

To those of you who have already donated: thank you! On behalf of the students we serve, the educators and parents we support, and the many volunteers all over the world who promote the work of FPSPI, we express our utmost appreciation for your commitment to our mission.

**SINCERELY,**

Matt Boyas, Board President
April Michele, Executive Director
THE IMPACT OF THE
FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING PROGRAM:
MORE THAN
250,000
FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING STUDENTS
FROM MORE THAN
37 AND 14
STATES AND COUNTRIES
have participated in the last decade!
Featured Students and Their Impact

Michelle Li - Creating the Future Scholarship Honoree

Michelle has participated in FPS since fourth grade and now coaches younger students. She represented Minnesota FPS at eight consecutive International Conferences. She helped expand student engagement through writing for the student newsletter, hosting game nights for student participants, and enhancing social media capabilities. Michelle was a pivotal contributor in the development of a new component for the Minnesota FPS Program called Visual Arts. She helped develop and refine competition specifications and evaluation criteria.

Arnav Shah - Creating the Future Scholarship Honoree

Arnav has participated in FPS since fourth grade and now coaches multiple GIPS teams, evaluates for the program, and manages the Michigan FPS website. He’s earned invitations to five International Conferences. Arnav has also demonstrated real-life application of FPS skills, using the public speaking skills developed through CmPS to secure a partnership with Google and receive funding for a project. He put his problem-solving skills to work in the community by creating STEM kits to the Boys & Girls Club of Detroit.

Alistair Wen - Keynote Artist at IC

Alistair has been participating in Future Problem Solving for many years, including serving as a coach for his school’s middle school team. In 2022, Alistair placed second in the MAGIC competition at Internationals. He is currently studying music and composition in Vienna, Austria. Previously, Alistair was a student at the Nueva School in San Mateo, California and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music pre-collegiate program. To hear some of Alistair’s original compositions and follow along, sign up for updates at www.aлистairwen.com.
International Conference (IC)

June 7-11, 2023

Celebrating 49 years of problem solving with students from around the globe!
At IC competitors experience the highest level of problem solving, utilizing critical and creative thinking as designed by Dr. E. Paul Torrance in 1974. Various competitions are offered to students through the year. Global Issues, Scenario Writing, and Scenario Performance are connected to featured topics. Community Problem Solvers select a local concern and take action.

195 Global Issues Teams
83 Global Issues Individuals
63 Scenario Writers
28 Scenario Performers

43 CmPS Projects
Community Problem Solving

1,338 Competitors
At IC 2023 from 9 different countries

FPS Students Go Beyond

The Dr. E. Paul Torrance Beyonder Award is presented to a community project that epitomizes all of the creative, futuristic, and passionate characteristics that can be observed through the project’s impact and its potential for meeting the needs of the worldwide community – no matter where that community may be.

The 2022 Beyonder Award was presented to Shyla and Fatuma, from Minnesota, USA.

According to Shyla and Fatuma’s research from the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, there was a 2,781.16% increase in cybertips of suspected online crimes against children in Minnesota between 2010-2021.

Their project "Who's on the Other Side?" aims to minimize the risk of child grooming. The project gets the conversation started on this sensitive subject through age-appropriate lessons developed for students in grades 3-12. Partnering with other student groups helps to spread the message and sustain efforts to keep personal safety at the forefront of students' minds when online.
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2023

Topic: CURRENCY

OVER 2,015 ATTENDEES

11 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES
FEATURED TOPICS OF STUDY

We are preparing students to tackle hard issues - for now and the future. Our topics holistically support many of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), such as Poverty, Hunger, Health, Reduced Inequality, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Responsible Consumption and Production.
In 2023, PMI Educational Foundation (PMIEF) announced an additional seven new partnerships with some of the world’s leading youth-serving non-profit organizations to make its mission of empowering young people with foundational project management skills a reality. The new 2023 PMIEF grant recipients span the globe, from the Middle East to Africa to Ukraine. This year’s grantees are: INJAZ AI-Arab/JA MENA, Junior Achievement Worldwide, INJAZ Jordan, Future Problem Solving Program International (FPSPI)™, and Special Olympics International (SOI).

“These organizations have an impressive record of positively impacting young lives and helping them chart their own courses and adding exposure to project management skills will help further this impact,” said Olivier Lazar, Chief Operating Officer at PMIEF and Vice President for Youth & Social Impact at Project Management Institute. “It’s setting young people up for academic, professional, and personal success. I’m confident these partnerships will not only make a difference in their individual lives but also in their ability to drive positive social impact around the world well into the future.”
Supporting Our Mission

In addition to assisting Affiliate Programs through the year, hundreds of volunteers dedicate time to share their expertise with FPSPI and participants at the International Conference.

Other ways to support our mission:

– **Give directly:** fpspi.org/donate

– **Fundraise for FPSPI!** Ask your employer about corporate giving and matches, or host a fundraiser with friends

– **Spread the word:** share our mission with your networks and on social media

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139 Volunteers

Over 8,000 hours of donated time to the students and activities of FPSPI - *does not include the additional countless hours donated during local events!*

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Thank you!