

June 10, 2017

Dear Parents and Students,

Like every loving, caring parent here today, I'm always interested in learning what makes our children smart and creative. In the past eight years, I have observed and paid close attention to my own daughter's growth. Surprisingly, I realized that the time she spent outside of school tended to be more inspiring and stimulating than the time she spent in school. Generally speaking, kids tend to take more responsibility for their learning when they are on their own time.

I have learned that as parents, one important job of ours is to create environments that allow children to explore and experiment safely. Environments like backyards that look like junkyards, and kitchens that are more like baking innovation labs. Believe it or not, these are the environments that spark creative thinking. It is critical that we could provide some unique experiences that surprise and allow children to see the world in new perspectives. They could be museums, shows, traveling around the world, selling homemade cupcakes door to door, turning an old coffee machine into a special piece of art, or even swimming in a pool with the scent of grapes that allow kids to imagine a world they know nothing about.

During my own parenting, what I've learned most of all is the importance of showing our children the need to get out of their comfort zone, to take risks, to persevere and to remain faithful and determined in the face of failure. - Because failure builds character and stamina, which often lead to breakthrough ideas.

This is what our "Future mobility creativity contest" is about. We are inviting our curious young thinkers to share with us the future that they envision for the automotive world. We want to provide them with an interesting and fun way of uncovering knowledge than that provided by the standard curriculum. No matter how you would like to present your ideas—visually, verbally, in writing or with a piece of product built with technology tools, those who tell the most compelling stories are empathetic towards their audience, and their project ideas most likely come alive much better than others do.

Our contest is designed to evoke young thinkers' sense of wonder and to nurture their passion. This opportunity could be the inspiring starting point of making the next generation of Steve Jobs, Elon Musk, J.K. Rowling and any one of the greatest visionary entrepreneurs. Plus, isn't it always fascinating to make your own spending money at a young age? Personally, I think contest winners should be allowed to spend their prize money however they want. - Go have fun! And for high school contestants, I hope you could win this prize so you could make your resume even more decorated and attractive to all your dream colleges.

Imagining the future is creating the future. Perhaps one day, we will recognize some of kids in the audience today on TV or newspaper and proudly say, "She was the scholarship winner of our mobility contest 20 years ago. - I think we created a genius!"

Thank you!

Jue Wang Page
President
Page Automotive Foundation