CTY reaches beyond its national borders in an effort to provide services to bright young people all over the world. To date, CTY has enrolled students from over 80 countries in its summer programs, and students from 66 nations participate in CTY’s distance education courses.

Starting in earnest about ten years ago, other countries approached CTY to help them develop the capabilities of their youth. These nations understand that highly talented children are a national resource that must be nurtured for the good of the child and of the nation.

To address this demand, CTY founded CTY International. Through this channel, CTY consults with experts from other nations to help them develop their own programs similar to CTY.

CTY assists educators and officials in these nations to establish a national recruitment and talent development model. CTY also helps interested nations in starting their own academic programs that meet the academic and social needs of highly talented students. A research focus to this effort enables countries to evaluate their programs and also encourages them to share findings and to identify projects with cross-cultural research dimensions.

CTY International is fostering formal and informal relationships with colleagues in other countries. Active programs exist with partners in Ireland, England, Germany, Spain, Bermuda, and Thailand. Talks are underway with potential partners in Korea, Brazil, and India. And two new CTY summer programs in China and Mexico are being launched in 2007.

From its contributions to international conferences on education to the establishment of academic programs in other countries, CTY has worked extensively with schools, educators, parents, and students from around the world. Members of CTY International are united by a common vision to help academically talented students strive for excellence by developing and implementing academic programs that will help their talents soar.
CTY International

CTY Bermuda

CTY Thailand

CTY Spain

CTY Ireland

New CTY Summer Programs Opening in 2007

CTY China (the Hopkins Nanjing Center)

CTY Mexico (Universidad de las Americas)
More than 95,000 students from the United States and
United States and 91 other countries participated in CTY programs from 1979 to 2007.
CTY is recognized by students, parents, the education community, and policymakers as a world leader in the education of precollegiate students of high academic ability. CTY’s programs will strive to serve all qualified students regardless of their ability to pay.

CTY is proud and honored to have played a role in the intellectual and personal development of hundreds of thousands of gifted children, and remains committed to doing so in the future.

Underlying all the programs and services CTY offers is the commitment to have a truly diverse student population and to reflect the face of America as well as the faces of the world.

CTY aims to achieve our goals by focusing on the following areas:

• Finding high ability students in all neighborhoods.
• Offering all qualified students a way into the CTY world—challenging educational opportunities that develop the intellect, encourage achievement, and nurture social development.
• Conducting research that advances knowledge about gifted education and best practices, then making these findings known to parents, the educational community, and policymakers.
• Supporting educators in their efforts to meet the needs of highly able students, and assisting parents in advocating for their gifted children.

We remain committed to these goals because we continue to be inspired in our work by the words of CTY students themselves:

"Have you ever had a miracle happen to you?"

"CTY has opened my eyes to a world of education, fun, independence, and everlasting memories. You have made a profound difference in my life."
Gifts to CTY
Beyond Boundaries

VENTURE FUND AIMS FOR NEXT GENERATION’S SUCCESS

Next Generation Venture Fund scholar Luz Fernandez speaks as passionately about the works of philosophers Hume and Kant as she does about drawing and design. The Harlem teen says she wants to do something creative for a career—maybe start her own business.

Matthew Townsend is working on building his own computer in Hartford, Conn., and has set his sights on studying at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is being raised by his mother, who emigrated from Jamaica.

More than 2,600 miles away in San Jose, Calif., Austin Lin has taken top prizes at several speech and debate tournaments, even though English is his second language. He hopes to attend a top law school.

While their daily lives and dreams are very different, they are among 224 promising students from modest family means—including 95 new scholars selected this summer—who have been tapped to participate in this four-year program developed by Goldman Sachs Foundation, CTY, and Duke University’s Talent Identification Program. The Next Generation Venture Fund aims to build a growing pipeline of African American, Hispanic, Native American, and other underrepresented students who are well prepared for admission to top colleges and universities and, eventually, key leadership roles in U.S. society.

“Here’s the possibility of changing 800 students’ lives and those of their families and the communities where they live… It’s a wonderful, wonderful possibility to realize the American Dream,” Chairman Miguel Satut said at the inaugural meeting of the Next Generation Venture Fund’s Advisory Board meeting. The board includes top officers from educational foundations and organizations such as the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Harlem Educational Activities Fund, the National Urban League and the Foundation for the American Indian.

The program works by providing select eighth-grade students with resources such as summer and distance education programs, academic advising, mentoring, and SAT and ACT preparation. It does so at a cost of $22,000 for the four-year package.

If you would like more information about the Next Generation Venture Fund, contact Julian Jones in CTY’s development office at 410-735-6010 or e-mail him at jj1@jhu.edu.

Next Generation Venture Fund Supporters
Funding for the Next Generation Venture Fund comes from corporations, foundations, and CTY parents. Major donors include:

Anonymous
Booz Allen Hamilton
CarMax Foundation
The Ceres Foundation
Peveroff Cohn Family Foundation
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The Hauser Foundation
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The W. K. Kellogg Foundation
LLL Foundation
W. Austin Ligon
NASDAQ Stock Market Educational Foundation Inc.
John and Laura Overdeck
Sheldon Stone
Tiger Woods Foundation
Time Warner Inc.
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SCHOLARSHIP BUOYS BRIDGEPORT TEEN’S GOALS

Charter Oak Scholar Omid Nasser Bigdeli plans to find a cure for leukemia, open free health clinics in his hometown, and attend one more summer of CTY.

Judging by the former Bridgeport public school student’s academic successes so far, none of those goals seems far-fetched. Omid, who was raised by a single mother after his father died when he was 6, credits his three CTY summers for helping him win a scholarship to attend Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Connecticut. There, he has won a place on the Dean’s List and taken the top academic prize for his grade.

“None of my successes would be possible without your great support and kindness,” Omid wrote to his sponsor. “I hope someday I can make this kind of experience possible for a child as you make it possible for me today.”

REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TAKES ROOT

CTY Advisory Board Chairman Ron Lake remembers his disbelief eight years ago when his son announced he wanted to spend three weeks of his summer vacation at “math camp.”

After seeing what CTY did for his son Ben that summer, the Greenwich, Conn., resident said, “I decided to take the initiative to launch something in my own backyard to make it possible for bright, low-income kids in our state to have this experience.”

Upon joining CTY’s new advisory board in 1999, Lake raised the idea of a local fund-raising group with a supportive fellow board member, James Li. The CTY Charter Oak Society was born.

Aimed at supporting 100 high-potential Connecticut students who qualify but cannot afford the tuition, the society has raised $394,000 for scholarships since 2000. This has allowed 223 local students to attend summer programs—including 61 students in 2005.

In addition, the Young Family Charitable Foundation and the LLL Foundation in Connecticut have each pledged $200,000 to support a total of 20 Next Generation Venture Fund scholars from the state.

Meetings of this regional philanthropic and volunteer group now routinely draw a dozen members including CTY parents, business people, educators, and foundation representatives. The society’s goals are threefold: promote CTY programs in Connecticut, organize forums for supporters and students to meet, and raise money for scholarships.

Starting in Fairfield County, the effort broadened in 2006 to New Haven and Hartford, and the society hopes to increase access across the state.

“We are very grateful to Ron Lake and the Charter Oak Society for the scholarships they provide and also for developing a model that can easily be replicated in other areas,” said CTY’s Executive Director Lea Ybarra.

For more information on this regional program or ways you can start one in your area, contact Margaret Walsh at 410-735-6005, or mwalsh@jhu.edu.
HOW TO START A CTY SOCIETY IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Ron Lake envisions Center for Talented Youth societies sprouting in cities across the country to provide a source of scholarship funds for local students and to support CTY’s national mission. Here’s advice from members of the CTY Charter Oak Scholarship Fund on how to get started:

**Think globally. Act locally.** The ‘60s mantra dictates that while CTY supporters should lobby for more funding for gifted and talented programs throughout the United States, they will likely have the greatest impact targeting their local community. “In the United States, we don’t invest enough in our intellectual capital,” said Charter Oak member Michael Fettig, a retired principal who worked in Connecticut public and private schools for 40 years. “We need to be enthusiastic about investing in our local talent.”

**Seek out CTY parents and alumni.** Those who have experienced firsthand the benefits of the CTY experience are apt to be the best advocates for investing in local academic talent.

**Partner with local community foundations.** Such non-profit foundations link donors with worthwhile causes that match their interests. For example, Charter Oak members Peter and Barbara McSpadden learned of CTY through the Fairfield County Community Foundation. “We were interested in enlarging kids’ lives,” said Peter McSpadden. “Our criteria were that there be a superior program in place and that it be backed by an institution with a reputation that we could trust.”

**Provide a forum for supporters to meet CTY students.** Hearing from students what the CTY experience has meant to them assures donors that their money is being well spent, Charter Oak members agree.

**Build local network based on community’s character.** “What works in Connecticut might be different from what works in New Jersey or San Francisco,” Lake said.

**Start with a steering group.** A small group of committed volunteers may be the best place to start discussing strategies to increase local participation in CTY programs, attract media attention and garner support for scholarships.