# **Connie Liu**

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**EDUCATION** 



# Massachusetts Institute of Technology

B.S. Mechanical Engineering (Phi Beta Kappa) Class of 2016 **GPA 4.9/5.0** 



#### **Stanford University**

M.B.A. (Paul & Daisy Soros Fellow) Class of 2022

# **AWARDS**

- Forbes 30 Unider 30 Education (2020)
- Westly Prize: \$40,000 Prize for top social entrepreneurs in California (2020)
- 4.0 Tiny Fellow: \$10,000 Prize for promising education ventures in the US (2018)
- Business Insider Most Impressive Students at MIT (2014)

# **Project Invent**

East Palo Alto, CA

### Founder & Executive Director Jun 2018-Present

- Started a national nonprofit that empowers students to invent technologies that solve real world problems.
- Developed a design thinking, engineering, and entrepreneurship curriculum used in classrooms in 20+ countries.
- Scaled the program to 1000+ teachers worldwide using our curriculum, 100+ teachers who have attended our weeklong training, and 50 schools across 14 states that are part of our yearlong program.
- Raised over 750K from individual, foundation, and corporate sources, exceeding fundraising goals by 200% each year.
- Hired and managed a team of 3 full-time staff and 6 board members in developing a 5-year strategic plan and executing its goals.
- Presented at 15+ education conferences on topics ranging from diversity in engineering to invention education.

#### The Nueva School

San Mateo, CA

# Design & Engineering Teacher Aug 2016-Jun 2018

- Designed and taught courses in Robotics, Wearables, Social Entrepreneurship, and Design Thinking for students in grades 7-12.
- Started a student invention program that grew to 100 students (25% of the student body) and boosted minority participation in engineering by 250%.
- Led global learning trips to Peru for cultural and language immersion.

# **Learn Capital**

San Mateo, CA

# Summer VC Fellow Jun-Aug 2017

- Performed due diligence on over 100 companies in the education technology space.
- Built an internal landscape document that identified companies that addressed each of the roles of the "unbundled teacher".
- Completed market research and business strategy plans for portfolio companies, VIPKID and PhotoMath.

#### **MIT Media Lab**

Cambridge, MA

#### **Undergraduate Researcher** May 2013-Jun 2016

- Deployed Sensei, a distributed sensor network, in three Montessori classrooms across tBoston to track student learning.
- Conducted user studies with classroom teachers to evaluate the effectiveness and user experience of Sensei.
- Developed a Raspberry Pi-based video system to automatically capture classroom footage and sync with data from Sensei.
- Developed the hardware and conducted multiple user studies for FingerReader, an assistive device to help blind people interact with text-based documents.
- Presented a workshop paper at the ACM CHI Conference.
- Featured in the Huffington Post and Time for our team's work on FingerReader.



Software: Python, HTML/CSS, Arduino, MATLAB, Javascript, Solidworks, Fusion360, Adobe Suite (AI, PS, ID, LR)

**Product:** Design Thinking, User Interviews, Rapid Prototyping, Needs Synthesis, Experience Design **Machines:** Laser Cutter, 3D Printer, CNC Router, Bandsaw, Panel Saw, Drill Press, Manual Mill