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**Co-Op Summer Enrichment Named 2023 New York Life Foundation  
EXCELLENCE IN SUMMER LEARNING AWARD WINNER**

**MAMARONECK, NY, September 25, 2023** -- We are proud to announce that [Co-Op Summer Enrichment](#), a Mamaroneck School District summer program led by The STEM Alliance, has been selected as one of just four recipients of the prestigious 2023 New York Life Foundation's Excellence in Summer Learning Awards. Presented by [National Summer Learning Association \(NSLA\)](#), the only national nonprofit exclusively focused on closing the opportunity gap by increasing access to high-quality summer learning experiences, this honor recognizes the top summer programs that support creative youth education experiences and their social-emotional learning and well-being. As an award winner, The STEM Alliance will receive a \$10,000 grant provided by the New York Life Foundation, a long-time partner of NSLA, as well as national recognition during the 2023 National Summer Learning Summit.



Being presented this honor also places Co-Op and The STEM Alliance within NSLA's network of fellow summer learning advocates and leaders establishing critical opportunities for youth around the country. Margaret Käufer, President of The STEM Alliance described this in more detail. "Co-Op has over a 50 year history of creating an equity of access to summer experiences for children and families here in Mamaroneck. Research confirms what we already know - quality summer programs have a direct, measurable impact on the life and learning trajectories of children. Bringing equal access to science, technology, engineering and math - STEM learning - is of equal importance. Our award winning approach is to blend unforgettable summer fun with high quality, hands-on learning experiences."

"Each of this year's four winners brings a unique track record of accomplishments and a creative program model to meet the needs, passions and interests of their students. Whether focused on supporting student academic, mental and physical health needs, teaching STEM and Career Skills, building leadership skills and community partnerships, our award winners show us all what is possible and how best to leverage the summer months to ensure all kids in the US are safe, learning, active, healthy and better prepared for the next school year," said Aaron Philip Dworkin, CEO, National Summer Learning Association.

In addition to Co-Op and The STEM Alliance, the other 2023 national winners are:

- Mo-Ranch Summer Camp, Hunt, TX
- Ready. Set. Summer!, Tulsa Public Schools, OK
- Summer Learning Academy, Tuscaloosa City Schools, AL

"Every year, we are truly inspired by the unwavering commitment of these summer programs to the well-being of children and families," said Marlyn Torres, Corporate Vice President of the New

York Life Foundation. “These pioneering initiatives foster constructive youth advancement and pathways for development, benefiting countless students nationwide. They exemplify the potency inherent in summer educational endeavors. Congratulations to all the deserving Honorees.”

Mamaroneck School District Superintendent Robert Shaps added additional accolades saying, “Co-Op is based on a shared belief in enrichment over remediation. The STEM Alliance has been a powerful partner with our District to create innovative curriculum and camp programming that promotes academic success for some of our students who need it the most.”

For more information about the Summer Learning Awards, visit <https://www.summerlearning.org/summer-learning-awards/>.



*Photo caption: Students build flying machines to test the principles of aerodynamics in the Take Flight workshop at Co-Op Summer Enrichment.*

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### **About The STEM Alliance**

The STEM Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization creating a network of STEM learning opportunities. With STEM jobs (in science, technology, engineering and math) expanding at an accelerated pace, there is high demand for skilled graduates. The STEM Alliance is growing the next generation of STEM leaders by creating a community where all are empowered to embrace STEM as a means of solving problems and fostering innovation.

For more info: [www.theSTEMalliance.org](http://www.theSTEMalliance.org)

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### **About Co-Op Summer Enrichment**

Established over 40 years ago, ***Co-Op Summer Enrichment*** provides 5 weeks of academic & recreational experiences for 200+ students from all 4 Mamaroneck School District elementary schools. The program serves mostly families who cannot afford to attend other local summer programs. The program also employs & mentors a diverse group of local teenagers to promote leadership & employment opportunities and incorporates the RISE Leadership Program for Hommocks Middle School students.

To learn more about Co-Op Summer Enrichment, visit [www.coopsummer.org](http://www.coopsummer.org).