

# Innovation Learning Accelerator

## MISSION

The Henry Ford provides unique educational experiences based on authentic objects, stories and lives from America's traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness and innovation. Our purpose is to inspire people to learn from these traditions to shape a better future.

## VISION

The Henry Ford will be a nationally recognized destination and force for fueling the spirit of American innovation and inspiring a "can-do" culture.

## GOAL

Our goal is to be a catalyst for change in the American education system.

Gain **perspective.**  
Get **inspired.**  
Make **history.**

Visit [thehenryford.org](http://thehenryford.org) and [oninnovation.com](http://oninnovation.com).

## Innovation Learning Accelerator FAQs

### What is The Henry Ford's Innovation Learning Accelerator?

The Henry Ford's Innovation Learning Accelerator (ILA) is our commitment to ignite a learning revolution and give every child in America access to critical ideas, content on innovation and problem-solving skills that will enable him or her to be the next 21st-century innovator or STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) practitioner. The ILA will:

- Train and empower 5,000 innovative teacher-leaders to teach innovation with The Henry Ford's curricula, Innovation 101 and Be an Innovator Like... Henry Ford/Rosa Parks.
- Inspire 125,000 students to think and act like innovators.
- Continue to gather qualitative and quantitative data to show how effective The Henry Ford's ILA is in cultivating innovative mindsets in learners, as well as in offering tangible tools and resources to teach innovation.

### Why should I care about teaching innovation?

As a nation, we are on the brink of a crisis: We are at risk of losing our global competitiveness. The future growth of this nation depends on innovation, STEM and 21st-century skills that will produce the competitive workforce we so desperately need. Teachers need quality, adaptable, curriculum-aligned and user-friendly teaching resources to engage their students in innovative thinking.

### What are The Henry Ford's innovation curricula?

The Henry Ford's innovation curricula can fit into all grade levels (K-12) and in all subject areas as a common denominator. These curricula offer a framework or lens to learners to think and act like innovators.

- Innovation 101 (recommended for grades 5-12) is a dynamic digital educational module that uses oral history interviews with some of America's iconic innovators, as well as curator interviews and authentic Web content on historic innovators, for active teaching and learning. This 45-minutes-a-day, five-days-a-week, easy-to-implement module is geared toward providing a critical contextual framework for participants on the core



tenets of innovation as they explore traits and processes used by innovators past and present. The lesson on keys to innovation, for example, highlights the important habits of mind (such as curiosity, empathy and learning from failures) that are necessary to succeed as an innovator or a 21st-century STEM practitioner. The lesson combines reflective, hands-on, small- and large-group activities with ample opportunities to do critical and creative thinking. Post-unit, project-based learning activities and ideas can be used to inspire continued engagement.

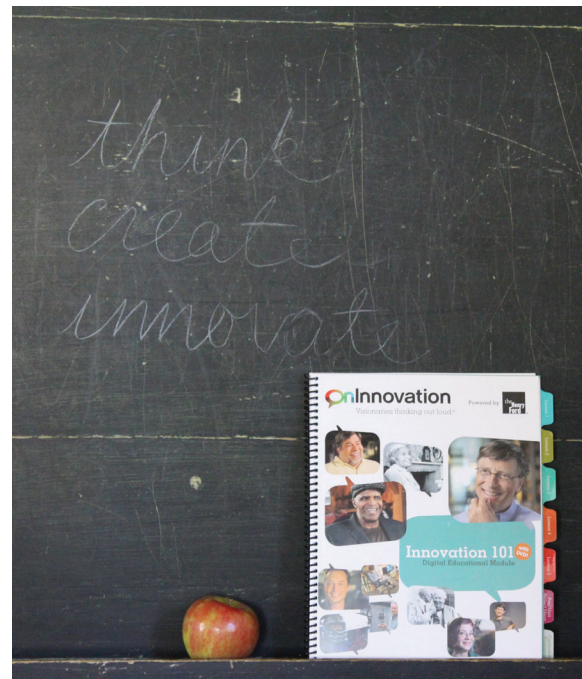
- Be an Innovator Like... Henry Ford/Rosa Parks (recommended for grades K-5) are colorful, fun and educational student activity books that allow students to learn about innovation as well as refine their literacy skills. Additionally, the curriculum reinforces 21st-century skill development by providing unique learning opportunities for critical and innovative thinking and creative visualization.

### Do The Henry Ford's innovation curricula support Common Core State Standards and other state and national standards (NGSS and others)?

Yes. Both the Innovation 101 and Be an Innovator Like... Henry Ford/Rosa Parks series support the Common Core Standards and reinforce 21st-century skills of creativity and innovation, critical thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration. Comprehensive alignment materials are provided in the curricula section and in training manuals on STEM/Next Generation of Science Standards, Social Studies, 21st-Century Skills, Educational Technology and Language Arts.

### Why The Henry Ford?

With its collection of 26 million artifacts that tell the story of American innovation, ingenuity and resourcefulness, The Henry Ford is uniquely positioned to unlock the potential of one of the world's greatest collections of content, stories and experiences about American innovation. The Henry Ford, since its inception in 1929, has always had education as its top institutional priority. In the last few years, in order to make history relevant, The Henry Ford has developed a new vision statement: *to be a nationally recognized destination and force for fueling the spirit of American innovation and inspiring a can-do culture.* To support this dynamic past-forward vision, The Henry Ford has launched a content-rich digital platform supported with over 200 digital teaching and learning tools and a new educational website called OnInnovation.com. To further augment learning resources on the topic of innovation, The Henry Ford is launching two national innovation initiatives in the fall of 2014, the "Innovation Nation" TV show on CBS and the Innovation Nation Teacher Innovator Awards. All these initiatives and resources show the institutional commitment to igniting a learning revolution through innovation.



### Have the ILA project or the curricula been tested and endorsed by other teachers?

Yes. The Henry Ford, through the Innovation Education Incubator, pilot-tested the innovation curricula with 40 teachers and over 1,000 students nationwide. Teachers from public, private and parochial schools participated. These materials were adopted at the elementary, middle and high school levels. The Innovation 101 materials were used in conjunction with several subject areas, including English/Language Arts, Health and Fitness, Entrepreneurship, History, Technology, Social Studies and Visual Arts.

#### A third-party evaluation yielded these results:

- Participating teachers felt these materials were an important curriculum support tool. They also felt the instructional guide and lesson plans that accompanied the materials were very satisfactory. Most teachers reported that there were no other materials like this available.

"Innovation 101 takes the mystery and fear out of the creative process, showing that it's attainable for everyone."

**Keith Rosko,**  
First Place Winner of  
the 2011 PBS Teachers  
Innovation Awards

- Virtually all of the participating teachers indicated the Innovation 101 module promoted critical thinking and creativity. It reinforced skills students would need in the future. Teachers felt their students learned a lot.
- On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 equals "excellent" and 1 equals "poor," eight out of 10 participating teachers and independent teachers rated the informational content of the Innovation 101 materials a 9 or a 10.
- Ninety-two percent (92%) of the independent teachers felt that the Innovation 101 lesson plans were sufficient in detail and instructions.

- Seventy percent (70%) of participating teachers felt Innovation 101 promoted computer-based learning and acquisition of new knowledge.

### What am I expected to do as an ILA participant?

ILA is not just another professional development workshop. It's a "learning continuum" where teacher innovators will learn, contribute and grow as catalysts for positive change in American education. Few commitments are required for you to be part of ILA:

1. Attend a five-hour "Teaching Innovation" training offered by The Henry Ford.
2. Implement the innovation curricula as-is or with your own creative adaptations and extensions in your classroom, starting in 2014.
3. Complete an online evaluation survey and administer an online survey to students.
4. Participate in a debriefing session, receive The Henry Ford's certificate to teach innovation and join The Henry Ford's national teacher innovator network.

### Can I just do the innovation teacher training and decide later if I want to implement the curricula?

Because ILA is a well-rounded project that aims to create valuable impact with teaching innovation, we are not offering the training separately as a professional development-only option. You will need to commit to fulfilling the four essential phases that are an integral part of ILA.

### Can I change or adapt The Henry Ford's innovation curricula to meet my classroom needs?

Yes. You can use the innovation curricula as-is or just use certain lessons or segments. We also empower you to add your own creative extensions and activities to it. Adaptability is the most unique feature of the curricula.



## Will I receive any other benefits or incentives for being part of ILA?

As we work together to unlock the potential of today's students to become our nation's next competitive workforce and valuable citizens, joining The Henry Ford's Innovation Learning Accelerator will provide educators with:

- An immersive five-hour training and ongoing support on how best to teach innovation in the classroom.
- A starter kit of resources (with your own copy of the innovation curricula or student activity book set, innovator posters, basic supplies, etc.) for your classroom and for your young innovators.
- The honor of being part of our national network of teacher innovators.
- The opportunity to blog and share implementation stories through The Henry Ford's website.
- Other special prizes (only for those who fulfill the full program, including completing training, classroom implementation, online evaluation and debriefing): Entry into a drawing for...
  - » A FREE field trip to The Henry Ford (admission to the museum or village) for up to 25 students with a pizza party sponsored by Buddy's Pizza (up to 10 awarded per year for the 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 school years only).
  - » Family memberships to The Henry Ford.
  - » The Henry Ford curricula kits.
  - » The Henry Ford gift card and more.

## Is there a cost to participate in ILA?

There are three ways to join ILA, and each comes with a different pricing option.

- **School or district participation:** If you are participating in ILA as part of a school or district group, a specialized budget will be put together, including training and material fees, that will be managed by the school or district based on typical professional development cost protocol.
- **Individual Participation:** If you are an educator looking to get involved in ILA on your own, there will quarterly opportunities to attend our five-hour, on-site, professional development workshop with a minimal fee to you that will include the cost of training, discounted curriculum and classroom materials.
- **The Henry Ford Educator Alumni:** If you have participated in any of The Henry Ford's teacher programs, such as the Teacher Fellow program, Innovation Education Incubator, NEH, or PBS, you can join ILA for free. The cost of all training and materials will be waived.

## How do I sign up to participate in ILA or find out more about costs and training dates?

Please call or email Paula Gangopadhyay, Chief Learning Officer, at 313.982.6063 or [paulag@thehenryford.org](mailto:paulag@thehenryford.org), or Jessica Rodriguez, Curator of Learning, at 313.982.2905 or [jessicar@thehenryford.org](mailto:jessicar@thehenryford.org).