



**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**

College of Education  
Friday Institute for Educational Innovation

# Annual Report

June 2022 - June 2023



# About Us

Our work at the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation focuses on supporting K-12 schools to become future-oriented organizations that build upon their traditional strengths to better serve the students of today and tomorrow.

As part of the College of Education, we Think and Do by inviting and challenging others to innovate with us. Informed by cutting-edge research and in collaboration with partners in education, government and private industries, we empower educators and their students to be forward-thinking learners and leaders. In this manner, we contribute to the social and economic wellbeing of North Carolina and help our schools meet the challenges of preparing students for the global workforce.

Our work is consistent with both the research and land-grant mission of NC State University and its College of Education. We are located on NC State's Centennial Campus, where university, corporate and government organizations partner with faculty and students in a highly innovative environment. We are proud to be named in honor of William Friday, former president of the University of North Carolina system, and his wife, Ida, who were passionate advocates and leaders in education for over 50 years.

## Our Vision

All learners are prepared to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

## Our Mission

Advancing K-12 education through innovation in teaching, learning and leadership, we bring together students, teachers, researchers, policymakers and educational professionals to foster collaborations that improve education for all learners.



**EDUCATE**  
by conducting  
professional learning,  
research and  
evaluation.



**INNOVATE**  
by designing supports,  
tools and structures for  
educational change.



**INSPIRE**  
by convening and  
catalyzing stakeholders  
to inform standards,  
policy and practice.

T H I N K   A N D   D O

# From the Interim Executive Director



This last year serving as the Friday Institute's interim executive director has been both an enlightening and humbling learning experience. I have developed an even greater understanding and appreciation for the leadership of our past executive directors, Dr. Hiller Spires and Dr. Glenn Kleiman, and I have been honored to carry forward their legacy and prepare the way for [Dr. Krista Glazewski, our new executive director of the Friday Institute](#) who started July 1.

It has truly been a pleasure to represent this amazing organization, which is the product not only of past leadership but of the dedicated and talented staff who share their commitment to educational innovation in North Carolina and beyond. While this annual report highlights just a small sampling of the work by our staff and faculty fellows this past year, it helps illustrate the larger impact this organization has had, and I anticipate will continue to have, under the leadership of our new executive director.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Friday Institute in a way that only a few have done before me. While there are many aspects of the role I will miss, I look forward to returning my focus to helping education researchers and practitioners use data to “educate, innovate, and inspire” and working with our new executive director to continue advancing educational innovation in North Carolina and beyond.

As always, thank you for your continued support of North Carolina K-12 education.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shaun Kellogg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name being more prominent.

Shaun Kellogg, Ph.D.  
Interim Executive Director  
Friday Institute



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# Our Leadership Team



**Dr. Shaun Kellogg**  
Interim Executive  
Director



**Arnita Adams**  
Senior Director,  
Finance and  
Human Resources



**Jonathan Barbee**  
Executive Assistant  
and Events  
Manager



**Heather Bronson**  
Director of  
Communications



**Dr. Callie Edwards**  
Acting Director,  
Program Evaluation  
and Education  
Research



**Kenny Ferguson**  
Director,  
Information  
Technology



**Marie Himes**  
Director, New  
Literacies  
Collaborative



**Dr. Gail Jones\***  
Alumni  
Distinguished  
Graduate Professor



**Dr. Jose Picart\***  
Deputy Director



**Dr. Hollylynne Lee\***  
Distinguished  
Professor of  
Mathematics and  
Statistics Education



**Dr. Melissa Rasberry**  
Director, Professional  
Learning and Leading  
Collaborative



**Dr. Eric Wiebe\***  
Professor  
Emeritus,  
STEM Education



**Braska Williams**  
Director, NC-MSEN  
Pre-College Program



**Ray Zeisz**  
Senior Director,  
Technology  
Infrastructure Lab

## Friday Institute Faculty Fellows



**Dr. Tiffany Barnes**  
Professor,  
Computer Science



**Dr. Jessica Hunt**  
Associate Professor



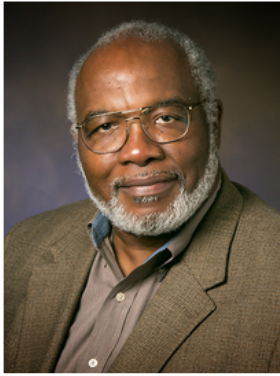
**Dr. Erin Krupa**  
Associate  
Professor



**Dr. Crystal Chen Lee**  
Assistant Professor

*\* denotes Senior Faculty Fellow*

# Friday Institute Advisory Board



**Dr. Ron Bailey**  
Department Head,  
Professor of African  
American Studies,  
University of Illinois,  
Urbana-Champaign



**Ashley Bucy**  
President, The Bucy  
Foundation



**J.B. Buxton**  
President, Durham  
Technical Community  
College



**Dr. John Denning**  
New Educational  
Ventures, Principal, and  
John M. Belk  
Endowment, Senior  
Advisor



**Dr. Catherine  
Edmonds**  
Chief of Staff  
NC Central University



**Wes Hall**  
VP, Philanthropy and  
Education, Battelle  
Memorial Institute



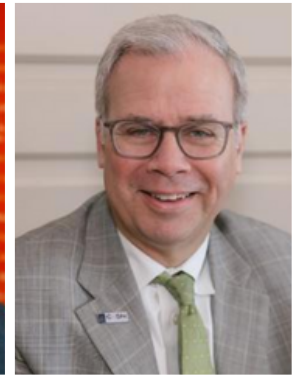
**Kevin Howell**  
Vice Chancellor for  
External Affairs,  
Partnerships and  
Economic  
Development, NC State



**Dr. Anthony  
Jackson**  
Superintendent,  
Chatham County  
Schools



**Dr. Shaun Kellogg**  
Interim Executive  
Director and Senior  
Director of Program  
Evaluation and  
Educational Research,  
Friday Institute



**Keith Krueger**  
CEO, Consortium on  
School Networking  
(CoSN)



**Dr. Jim Pellegrino**  
Distinguished Professor  
and Co-Director,  
Learning Sciences  
Research Institute,  
University of Illinois at  
Chicago



**Diana Urieta**  
Senior Director,  
Co-Developer and  
Extension Specialist,  
Juntos



**Patricia  
Willoughby**  
Former NC State  
Board of Education  
Member; Former  
Executive Director,  
NC Business  
Committee for  
Education



**Shawna Young**  
Founder and  
Principal Advisor,  
Forward Impact  
Investments



# BY THE NUMBERS

56

ACTIVE CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

\$14.9M

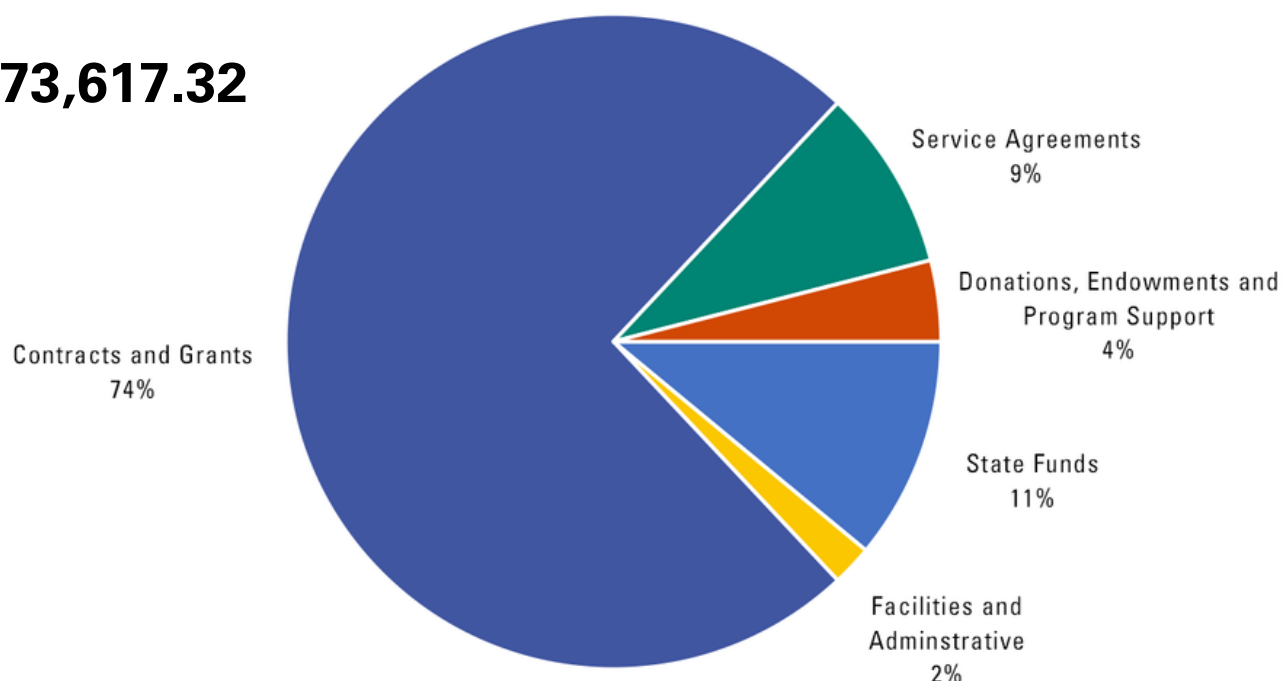
CONTRACT AND GRANT FUNDING

\$1.8M

GRANT AWARDED FROM NCDPI TO EXPAND COMPUTER SCIENCE  
TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM IN NORTH  
CAROLINA

## Academic Year 2022-2023 Funding Portfolio

\$20,373,617.32



# Our Work

The Friday Institute for Educational Innovation operates under a theory of change: Advancing K-12 education through innovation in digital-age teaching, learning and leadership, we bring together students, educators, researchers, policymakers, educational professionals and other community members to foster collaborations that improve education.

## → DESIGN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*We collaboratively research, develop and implement evidence-based, customized professional development programs for pre-service and in-service K-12 educators and educational leaders.*

### **Developing Scholars**

The LASER Institute, a professional development program for early- and mid-career researchers, held its first in-person weeklong summer workshop July 11-15, 2022, at the Friday Institute to support its scholars' professional development throughout the year. Fifty scholars participated in differentiated learning labs, listened to internationally recognized experts in the field, learned about instructional resources and participated in community-building activities designed to support scholars in their professional development during the summer and throughout the year.

### **Supporting North Carolina Educators**

Facilitated by the Friday Institute and in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), North Carolina's Computer Science Professional Development Program provided free professional learning opportunities during the summer of 2023 for North Carolina educators using Code.org's computer science (CS) curriculum. These trainings were intensive, highly supportive programs designed to prepare educators who have not necessarily taught or studied computer science previously. Educators across the state could register at a training site near them to complete the computer science professional development that best suited their instructional needs.

### **Offering Online Learning for Statistics and Data Science Teachers**

The Hub for Innovation and Research in Statistics Education (HI-RiSE) team at the Friday Institute designed and deployed InSTEP—a free, innovative and personalized online learning platform to allow teachers in grades 6-12+ to develop their expertise in teaching statistics and data science.



## → ENGAGE EDUCATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

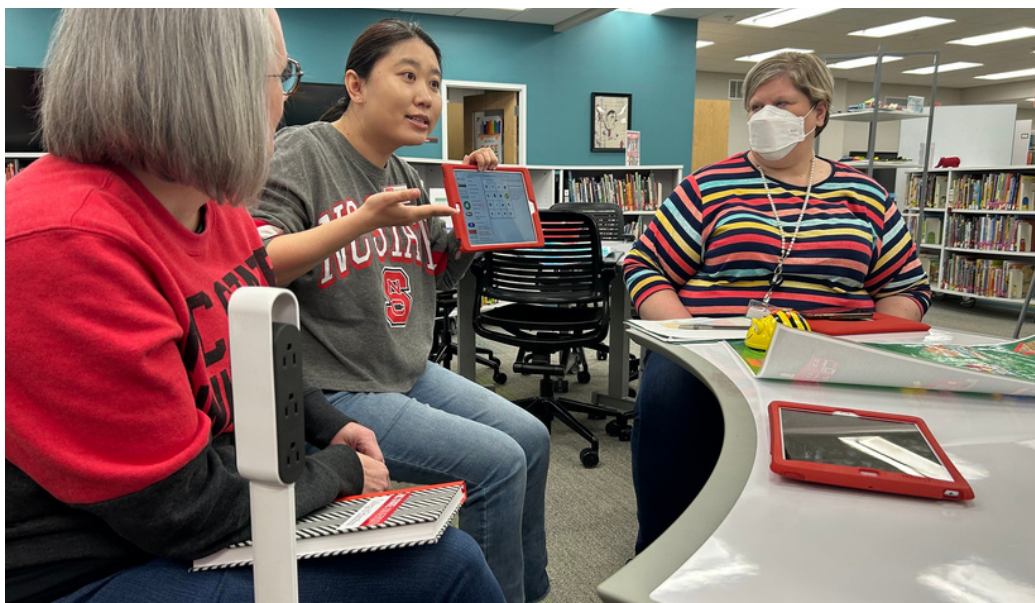
*We convene and connect educational stakeholders to catalyze change and innovation in education.*

### **Supporting Virtual Public Schools**

The Virtual Schools Network (VSN) is a partnership between the Friday Institute and North Carolina Virtual Public School that supports and connects traditional virtual public schools. The VSN creates capacity building opportunities, designs quality courses, assesses technology needs and establishes support structures to assist in scaling for size and planning for sustainability. Launched in summer 2022, this network not only creates the space for educators to learn with and from one another but also offers opportunities for personalized support, professional development and advocating for the unique needs of virtual public schools and their educators across the state of North Carolina. The VSN team designed a Summer Institute to support and inspire K-12 educators playing leading roles as innovators in the design, development and implementation of their virtual school learning environments. Throughout the two-day, in-person event, educator teams had time to connect, collaborate, reflect, learn and plan for the future of their schools.

### **Addressing Computing Education**

The Friday Institute, in partnership with the Wake County Public School System, is developing a sustainable community of elementary teachers to support the ongoing integration of computer science (CS) concepts into core content areas. By implementing a scalable professional development program and co-creating locally relevant curricular materials with teachers, the project team aims to increase access to computing education in elementary schools, ensuring that every student in North Carolina has the opportunity to experience computer science, regardless of historical stereotypes and institutional barriers.





## INFORM STANDARDS, PRACTICES AND POLICIES

*We support identification, implementation and scaling of innovative practices throughout the education system and lead efforts to generate, recommend and implement equity-minded educational policies and practices.*

### **Pursuing Digital Equity**

In partnership with North Carolina Central University and the Institute for Emerging Issues, the Program Evaluation and Education Research (PEER) Group at the Friday Institute led the effort to manage the development of a Digital Equity Asset Inventory for North Carolina, conduct a series of listening sessions across the state and facilitate the implementation and analysis of a statewide digital equity survey to help the North Carolina Department of Information Technology Division of Broadband and Digital Equity (NCDIT) develop a five-year digital equity plan.



## Did you know...

The Friday Institute's North Carolina Math/Science Education Network (MSEN) Pre-College Program chapter has served more than 548 students through their Saturday Academy, statewide STEM competition day event and summer camps. MSEN provides 6-12 grade students from underserved populations with experiences that will equip them to attend a four-year college or university to pursue majors in STEM fields. The NC State MSEN program holds a class or after-school club in five middle schools and two high schools.



## → PROVIDE SUPPORT, TOOLS AND STRUCTURES

*We develop, implement and evaluate tools, frameworks and instruments to inform and support research, policy and practice. From supporting the development of technology infrastructure to creating resources to capture, disseminate and scale innovative practices, we help build capacity across schools, districts and education systems.*

### **Providing Educational Access Through Connectivity**

The Friday Institute's Technology Infrastructure Lab (TIL) helped the NC Department of Information Technology identify homes and businesses that lacked high-speed internet in order to ensure that more North Carolinians were connected. About 115,000 North Carolina homes and businesses that lacked high-speed internet access were identified as part of a process to update the FCC National Broadband Map that could help the state secure more funding to get people connected. The Friday Institute provided the data comparisons utilized to support the National Broadband Map challenges. Internet access has a direct impact on students' educational experiences.

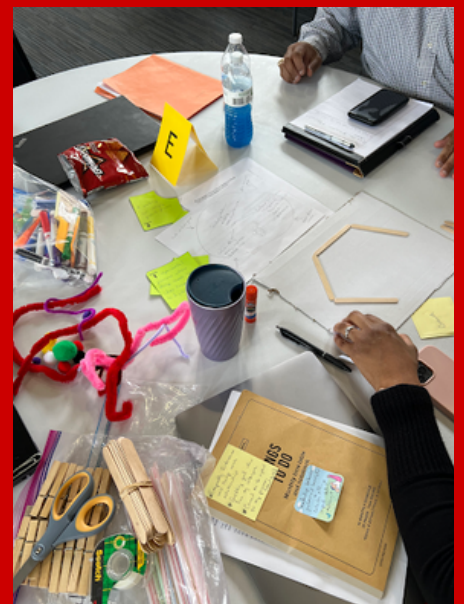
## Supporting our Schools

### **Wayne County Public Schools**

The Friday Institute's Professional Learning and Leading Collaborative (PLLC) team and Wayne County Public Schools administrators used the design process for leading and teaching in order to develop innovative and responsive solutions and strategies to complex challenges in their district.

### **Lexington City Public Schools**

For the past two years, the PLLC has partnered with Lexington City Schools (LCS) to enhance their development work around personalized learning. This initiative has supported administrators and educators across six schools by providing both asynchronous and synchronous learning opportunities, in addition to individual coaching. Recently, data was shared with LCS district leadership to align with their current work around strategic planning efforts for the 2023-24 school year.



## → CONDUCT RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

*We conduct foundational research in search of effective classroom practices and solutions to challenges that hinder learning. We also conduct systematic evaluations to understand and improve the impact of promising practices, programs and policies. By identifying evidence-based programs that work for educators and students, the Friday Institute helps schools and systems scale innovative approaches to teaching and learning.*

### **Accelerating Learning Recovery**

The NC Education Corp program was developed in response to the drastic impact of COVID-19 on students and families and in partnership with the NC State Board of Education and Office of the Governor. NC Education Corps provides local K-3 schools early literacy tutors to help accelerate learning recovery. The Friday Institute's Program Evaluation and Education Research (PEER) Group is co-leading the three-year program evaluation with the Duke Social Science Research Institute.

### **Utilizing Broadcast Pedagogy to Teach Grade-level Literacy Concepts**

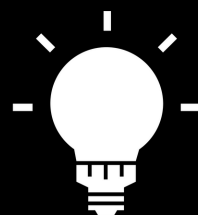
A research study published by Friday Institute staff highlights how literacy classroom instructional approaches can be adapted for television through the concept of broadcast pedagogy. Broadcast pedagogy uses the broadcast medium (e.g., accessible anytime and anywhere, visual and aural enhancements, intentionality in scripting and set design) to teach key grade-level literacy concepts. The research team further defined the concept by identifying four components of broadcast pedagogy: coordinating content, facilitating teacher presence, scripting teacher talk and leveraging post-production affordances.

### **Understanding Teacher Compensation Models' Impact on Teaching and Learning**

A collaborative team from the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation and the NC State College of Education are assessing the impact of the teacher compensation models and Advanced Teaching Roles (ATR) program on teaching and learning in North Carolina. In addition, this evaluation includes a comparative analysis of program implementation in order to help identify and scale the most effective components of these programs.

## Did you know...

The Friday Institute's Technology Infrastructure Lab helps NCDPI ensure that every K-12 school is connected to the internet and every classroom has Wi-Fi. The TIL team works with NCDPI to maximize the use of the FCC E-rate program and ensure tax dollars are being spent efficiently to provide resilient and equitable access to every student in the state.





# Event Spotlight



## Friday Medal

The Friday Medal honors significant, distinguished and enduring contributions to education and beyond through advocating innovation, advancing education and imparting inspiration. In recognition of the commitment of Bill and Ida Friday to educational excellence, the Friday Institute created the Friday Medal. This award is given annually to those who embody the mission and spirit of the Friday Institute. In 2022, the Friday Institute celebrated two educators who advance equity through research and teaching—Dr. James Banks and Joann Blumenfeld.



Friday Medal winners Joann Blumenfeld (center left) and Dr. James A. Banks (center right) hold their Friday Medal awards with ceremony speakers (from L to R) Dean Paola Sztajn, Chancellor Randy Woodson, Interim Executive Director Shaun Kellogg, Distinguished Professor Hollylynne Lee and Interim Director for Program Evaluation and Education Research Callie Edwards.

### Dr. James A. Banks

Kerry and Linda Killinger Endowed Chair in Diversity Studies Emeritus, University of Washington College of Education; and Founding Director, Banks Center for Educational Justice

**"To say that Jim is a force of nature is an understatement. He has more energy, creativity and drive than almost anyone I know, but it's generosity, his collegial spirit and his dedication to our youth and their future that are the hallmarks of his entire career."**

**-- Sonia Nieto, professor emerita of language, literacy and culture at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst**

### Joann Blumenfeld

Founder and Program Director, Catalyst at The Science House

**"Joann was determined to 'equip differently thinking people to make a better world,' and I love that. But it wasn't just about the students – it was about changing the mindsets of school leaders, university administrators, STEM business leaders and society as a whole."**

**-- Jason Painter, director of The Science House**

# Event Spotlight

## Catalyst Grant Research Symposium

Each year, the Friday Institute and NC State's College of Education encourage faculty and staff to collaborate in developing innovative research through the Catalyst Grant program. Started in 2018, this program provides seed funding for projects that have the potential to continue past the life of the grant and receive external funding. For the 2021-2022 round of funding, three research teams were awarded Catalyst Grants and researchers presented their work during the fourth annual Catalyst Grant Research Symposium on September 27, 2022.

"The presentations shared by researchers once again showed the power and promise in supporting early stage collaborative research," said Hollylynne Lee, interim associate dean of the Friday Institute and distinguished professor of mathematics and statistics education in the College of Education. "All of the projects from 2021-22 investigated issues relevant to K-12 education. The findings and lessons learned that were shared at the symposium sparked engaging discussions among attendees. We look forward to continuing this tradition, now going into its fifth year of funding, for sparking creative inquiry and innovative solutions for education."



### Catalyst Grant Presentations

#### > Using Artificial Intelligence for a Student-Led Inquiry into Redlining

—Assistant Professor Amato Nocera and Director of Technology Programs Jennifer Houchins

#### > Supporting and Retaining Residency Licensed Special Educators

—Associate Professor Jessica Hunt

#### > Investigating How Teachers Implement Data Lessons and Support Equitable Student Participation

—Research Scholar Gemma Mojica, Assistant Professor Sunghwan Byun and Research Associate Emily Thasher

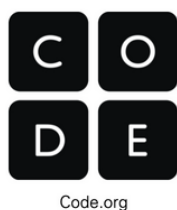
# Our Partners

Thank you to our partners for your commitment to education in North Carolina and across the world.

- American Statistical Association K-12 Education
- A+ Schools of North Carolina
- Beijing Royal School
- Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research
- Bull City YouthBuild
- Centennial Campus Middle School
- Center for Educational Informatics
- Center for Inquiry-Based Learning
- Center for Public Engagement with Science
- Code.org
- Common Sense Media
- CORRAL
- digiLEARN
- Digital Durham
- Digital Promise
- Eastern Michigan University
- Eastman Company
- Education Development Center
- Eye to Eye
- Family Life Coaching Association
- Florida Center for Reading Research
- Florida International University
- Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences
- Go Global NC
- GrantProse Inc.
- Intuitive Foundation
- Juntos
- Kenan Fellows Program
- Lea(R)nPlatform
- Lenovo
- Marbles Kids Museum
- MCNC
- Morehead Planetarium and Science Center
- NC Department of Information Technology Services
- NC Independent Colleges and Universities
- NC New Teacher Support Program
- NC State College of Engineering
- NC State College of Natural Resources
- NC Virtual Public School
- New Teacher Center
- North Carolina Community Colleges
- North Carolina Education Corps
- NC Museum of Natural Sciences
- NC Principals and Assistant Principals Association
- NC State Board of Education
- Old Dominion University
- Participate Learning
- PBS North Carolina
- Penn State University
- Person Early College for Innovation and Leadership
- Pitsco
- QED Foundation
- RAND
- Refugee Hope Partners
- RTI International
- SAS Institute
- Science House
- Shaw University
- SRI International
- State Library of North Carolina
- Stough Mandarin Immersion Magnet Elementary School
- Suzhou North America High School
- Teach for All
- Teach for America
- Team ADVANCE
- Technology and Engineering Education Collegiate Association
- The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Triangle Literacy Council
- UNC System
- Universal Design for Learning
- University of California Berkeley
- University of Florida Department of Computer & Information Science & Engineering
- University of Georgia
- University of Virginia
- University Southern Indiana
- Wade Edwards Learning Lab
- Wake Early College of Health and Sciences
- Wake Partnership for Postsecondary Success
- WestEd
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Youth Thrive
- zSpace

# Our Funders

Our work is only possible through the generous support of our funders. Thank you for your ongoing support of our mission.





Watch this video to learn more about  
the Friday Institute.



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