



**ENGINEERS
FOUNDATION OF OHIO**
Advancing Engineering Education in Ohio

FOCUS

WINTER 2025

EFO celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2024 at its Awards Luncheon in Columbus!

Right: President Tina Sutermeister, MBA, PE, FNSPE, a former Ohio MATHCOUNTS chair, recognizes mathlete Samuel Joo at the lunch. Also pictured is EFO's Challenge Coin, produced as an anniversary memento.



SUPPORTING ENGINEERS FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER

EFO champions engineering education from primary school through professional development programs



The Engineers Foundation of Ohio (EFO) celebrated its Diamond Anniversary in 2024, marking six decades of “advancing engineering education in Ohio”—EFO’s mission, which supports engineers from early education through their careers.

Building on its rich history, EFO continues to uphold its mission, presenting innovative programs that inspire future engineers and empower professionals. The Foundation remains dedicated to providing access to timely topics, expert-led seminars, and valuable educational resources, while exploring new ways to elevate engineering education.

With a steadfast commitment to fostering the next generation of engineers, EFO’s STEM programs—Imagine Engineering and Ohio MATHCOUNTS—and college scholarships sustained excellence in 2024.

Imagine Engineering, a program designed to introduce second graders to the wonders of engineering, reached an impressive 8,588 students in 2024—bringing participation to 158 percent of the previous year’s level. Thanks to a generous grant from the P&G Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, EFO expanded the program’s resource library in 2024, adding a Spanish translation of its original educational video, “Imagine Engineering.” EFO’s unique second grade program continues to captivate young learners with hands-on activities, sparking curiosity and laying the foundation for future engineering careers.

Ohio MATHCOUNTS remains a cornerstone of EFO’s outreach efforts, providing middle school students with a dynamic and challenging platform to

sharpen their math skills. In 2024, 1,240 students from 133 schools participated in local competitions, demonstrating their problem-solving skills. In March, local winners advanced to the Ohio competition, and in May, the state’s top four mathletes flew to the national finals in Washington, D.C., where they worked hard, enjoyed their shared passion for math with middle school students from around the U.S., and toured our nation’s capital.

EFO’s scholarship program continues to make a tangible difference in the lives of aspiring engineers. In 2024, the Foundation offered in excess of \$33,000 in scholarships to outstanding students pursuing engineering degrees. By supporting Ohio’s brightest minds, EFO is investing in individual futures and strengthening the engineering profession. Rising tuition costs and inflation make it crucial for EFO to continue offering scholarships to help students achieve their dreams of becoming engineers.

Professionals report that they rely on EFO’s quality continuing professional development (CPD) programs. With 49 CPD hours offered through diverse programs, participation has surged—particularly with the convenience of virtual learning. In the last two years, “The Engineer As Leader,” Fall CPD Conference, and December Seminar saw impressive registration numbers and offered engineers leadership, communication, and ethics training for career advancement, while keeping them abreast of evolving technical topics.

EFO’s unwavering dedication to education, outreach, and professional development solidifies Ohio’s role as a leader in engineering education excellence. As EFO looks to the future, its commitment to inspiring young minds, supporting students, and encouraging professional growth remains stronger than ever. With continued engineering community support, EFO will expand its impact for generations to come.



EFO celebrated 60 years of excellence in engineering education and service in 2024

The Engineer's Foundation of Ohio (EFO) celebrated its **Diamond Anniversary** in 2024, marking six decades of commitment to advancing engineering education in Ohio. This milestone year was rewarding, as EFO's youth programs and CPD seminars continued to thrive in popularity.

Founded on June 16, 1964, EFO has become the premier organization supporting Ohio youth with STEM education programs and resources while providing engineering professionals with high-quality continuing education throughout their careers.

In 1968, EFO awarded its first scholarships, and by 2014, the scholarship program exceeded \$1.2 million in awards. During the 1970s, EFO produced the influen-

tial publication *Engineering Your Career* to help high school seniors prepare for engineering school.

EFO has been instrumental in supporting math and science education among school age students. In 1983, MATHCOUNTS was founded with EFO's support, and the first Ohio MATHCOUNTS

competition was hosted in 1984. And every year since then, this program has continued to inspire middle school students to excel in mathematics. In 1999, EFO launched the Imagine Engineering program for second graders. The program's success led to the creation of the educational video *Imagine Engineering* in 2021, followed by a Spanish translation in 2023.

EFO has consistently provided op-

portunities for professional growth. The Engineer as Leader professional training, established by EFO's Engineers Leadership Institute in 1968, celebrated its 56th anniversary in 2024.

The Foundation hosted its first Fall CPD Conference in 2006 and its first December Seminar in 2007. Since they were introduced, each program has annually provided PEs with valuable education in technical, managerial, and ethics topics for nearly two decades.

As EFO celebrated its Diamond Anniversary in 2024, it looked back on 60 years of remarkable achievements and forward to a future of continued growth and innovation. EFO's leaders – the organization's real gems – have been instrumental in its success.

Happy 60th Anniversary, EFO. *Onward and upward!*



EVENTS

All 2025 programs and meetings are virtual unless otherwise noted. For details, please call 614-223-1177.

JAN-MAY	Imagine Engineering
FEB 01-28	Chapter MATHCOUNTS Competitions, local
MAR 13-14	"The Engineer As Leader" Professional Training
MAR 15	Ohio MATHCOUNTS, Columbus State Community College
MAR 28	EFO Board of Trustees Meeting, Ohio Chamber of Commerce
APR 05	State Scholarship Grading
APR 18	EFO Committee Meetings
MAY 16	EFO Benefit Golf Outing, Bent Tree, Sunbury
MAY 11-12	National MATHCOUNTS, Washington, D.C.
JUN 14	EFO Annual Meeting, Embassy Suites Dublin, Ohio
JUN 20	EFO Board of Trustees Meeting, Ohio Chamber of Commerce

EFO'S 2024-2025 OFFICERS: CHAMPIONS OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION

- **President Scott Dilling, PE**, of NSPE-Ohio's Canton Regional Chapter, is a professor and program director at the University of Akron and a consultant.
- **President-Elect Joe Cherry, PE, FNSPE**, of NSPE-Ohio's Toledo Regional Chapter, is

retired from SSOE Group.

- **Past President Tina Sutermeister, MBA, PE, FNSPE**, of NSPE-Ohio's Franklin County Chapter, is retired from the telecommunications industry.
- **Secretary Chett Siefing, PE, FNSPE**, of NSPE-Ohio's

Northeast Chapter, is a geotechnical engineer and the director of engineering for GeoSci in Berea.

- **Treasurer James Burke, EI**, of NSPE-Ohio's Toledo Chapter, is an electrical engineer at Whirlpool Corporation and a part-time

instructor at the University of Toledo.

- **NSPE-Ohio President Rodney Wilson, PE**, of NSPE-Ohio's Tuscarawas Valley Chapter, is retired from the Ohio Department of Transportation, District 11 in New Philadelphia.



Young Ohio students imagine their futures in engineering

Ohio second graders in the 2024 Imagine Engineering program discovered the world of design through educational activities and table-top demonstrations. Thanks to a generous grant

from The P&G Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, the program expanded to include a Spanish translation. The winners of the coloring contest were: 1st place: Ankit Ray (Mason

Early Childhood Center), 2nd place: Kaelyn Waldfogel (Archbold Elementary), and 3rd place: Ben Baker (Mater Dei Academy). Thank you to the volunteers who made this program a success!

Ohio's top "mathletes" shine at national MATHCOUNTS finals in Washington, D.C.

Ohio's top four "mathletes" had an unforgettable time at the 2024 National MATHCOUNTS Competition in Washington, D.C. Seventh grader Henry Lu (Grizzell) and eighth graders Arush Krisp (Olentangy Shannah), Samuel Joo (Solon), and Aryan Agarwal (Harmon) were excited

to represent Ohio. After working to build their "math muscles" and strengthen team cohesion, they showcased their skills at the national level. This was Arush Krisp's second appearance at the finals. These students made their schools and state proud. Congratulations to them and Coach TJ Luttrell!



L-R: Samuel Joo, Henry Lu, Arush Krisp & Aryan Agarwal are serious about practicing math problems at the national finals.

MATHCOUNTS helped me lots in collaborating with others, which inspired me to come back to help coach our team now. As for my individual journey, hearing from the guest speaker at the 2020 State Competition sparked my curiosity and interest in competitive math, driving me to then make nationals the following year. I'd like to thank Ohio MATHCOUNTS for continuously maintaining a positive environment allowing kids to push their bounds in mathematics with their peers – and helping them start their individual journeys in math, too!"

— Emir Naduvil, Student, Solon High School
Former Ohio MATHCOUNTS Mathlete

The video was GREAT!!! I think the paper airplanes were the highlight though!"

— Erin Macsurak, Teacher
Bio-Med Science Academy, Ravenna, OH
(Regarding Imagine Engineering)

It is a huge honor and will help me reach my goals."

— Trevor Stewart, Marengo, OH
2024-2025 Recipient, Franklin County
Chapter of NSPE-Ohio Scholarship

This scholarship helps to relieve some of the financial pressure and helps me in achieving one of my education goals. I appreciate your recognition of my academic and personal potential in awarding me this scholarship."

— Samuel Johnson, Plain City, OH
2023-2024 Recipient, Franklin County
Chapter of NSPE-Ohio Scholarship

Ohio Spotlight: Engineers Foundation of Ohio leaders make an impact



Above, EFO President Tina Sutermeister, MBA, PE, FNSPE, presents the President's Award to EFO Past President Howard Jones, PE, FNSPE, for his leadership and fundraising efforts. Sutermeister called Jones an "EFO ambassador."

Below, EFO President Tina Sutermeister, MBA, PE, FNSPE, honors longtime Toledo Regional MATHCOUNTS Coordinator Dan Stark, PE, with the President's Award for his unwavering commitment to STEM education.



EFO President Tina Sutermeister, MBA, PE, FNSPE, passes the gavel to President-Elect Scott Dilling, PE, at the June installation ceremony in Columbus. NSPE President-Elect Brian Malm, PE, FNSPE, (center) installed the officers.



EFO President Scott Dilling, PE, welcomes a national and international audience to the 2024 Fall CPD Conference, where EFO presenters inspired innovation and fueled knowledge in the educational sessions.



Recognizing excellence: EFO's newest scholarship recipients head to school

The Engineers Foundation of Ohio (EFO) awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors and upperclassmen enrolled in ABET-accredited engineering programs. EFO promotes its scholarships to more than 700 Ohio high schools, as

well as colleges and NSPE-Ohio/EFO members. Special thanks to Scholarship Committee Co-chairs Terry McClain, PE, and Joe Sullivan, PE; state-level grader L. Steve Day, PE, FNSPE; and all chapter graders for evaluating numerous applications.

Congratulations to the 2024-2025 scholarship recipients, Ohio's best and brightest!

**Raymond H. Fuller, PE,
Memorial Scholarship**



Emily Turner (Washington Court House, Ohio) is a freshman at Case Western Reserve University where she has a double major in engineering physics and astronomy. She told EFO her future plans: "I hope to work in the space industry."

**Lloyd A. Chacey, PE,
Memorial Scholarship**



Colby Croxton (Louisville, Ohio), in his fourth year studying civil engineering at the University of Akron, has enjoyed his internship in traffic engineering with GPD Group. He appreciates EFO for the scholarship: "I cannot express how thankful I am."

**Franklin County
Chapter of Ohio
Society of Professional
Engineers Scholarship**



Trevor Stewart (Marengo, Ohio) is a freshman at the University of Akron studying mechanical engineering. He enjoys problem solving and engineering challenges.

**Cyril W. Neff, PE, PS,
Memorial Scholarship**



Stephen Tirpak (Rocky River, Ohio) is a freshman at the University of Notre Dame studying aerospace engineering, and he interns as a research analyst.

**Engineers Foundation
of Ohio General Fund
Scholarship**

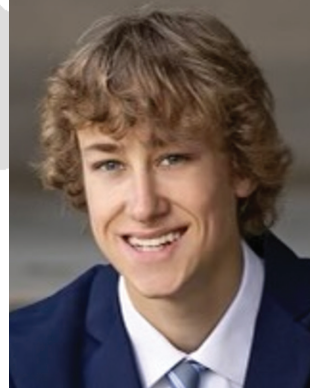


Brendan Krych (Loveland, Ohio) is a junior majoring in civil engineering at The Ohio State University. As an undergraduate research assistant, he is studying concrete.



EFO President Tina Sutermeister, MBA, PE, FNSPE, recognizes EFO General Fund Scholarship recipient Brendan Krych at the 2024 Awards Luncheon in Columbus last June.

**Peter Peterson –
University of Toledo –
Memorial Scholarship**



Ty Post (Saint Henry, Ohio) is a freshman at the University of Toledo studying electrical engineering; he has a keen interest in intricate circuits and systems.

2024-2025 Scholarship Renewals

**C. Merrill Barber, PE,
Memorial Scholarship:**
Kennedy Brehm (CWRU)

**Roger W. Loveless, PE, PS,
Memorial Scholarship:**
Austin Ebbing (UD)

**Cyril W. Neff, PE, PS,
Memorial Scholarship:**
Renee Levasseur (OSU),
Anthi Souris (OSU)
& Emily Padavick (UA)

**Joe Niedecken, PE,
"Pay It Forward" – UC –
Memorial Scholarship:**
Casey Jackson (UC),
Michael O'Connell (UC)
& Nick Schmidt (UC)

**Peter Peterson – UT –
Memorial Scholarship:**
Caden Schwieterman (UT),
Caleb Herman (UT)
& Jamison Grime (UT)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Fall CPD Conference engages Ohio PEs with insightful discussions

Attendees earned 15 CPD hours through expert-led technical, managerial & ethics seminars

The 2024 Virtual Fall CPD Conference, held on November 7-8, brought together professionals for two days of engaging and informative sessions. Attendees earned up to 15 CPD hours, including 2 hours of ethics training, through a diverse lineup of interesting and timely technical, managerial, and ethics seminars.

The conference featured expert-led discussions on cutting-edge topics such as power ultrasound in medicine, the changing landscape of the natural gas industry, ethical decision-making

strategies, and electrolysis-based hydrogen generation. One participant shared, "The electrolysis-based hydrogen generation topic was the best I have ever heard presented on this subject."

Attendees appreciated the seamless virtual experience and high-quality content. "Thank you for making this a valuable experience," noted one participant. Another thanked EFO for "such a well-run webinar."

The ethics seminars were a highlight, offering deep dives into ethical strategies and the implications of self-deception in engineering ethics. These sessions reinforced the importance of reviewing all of the ethical considerations when making engineering decisions.

In addition to technical sessions, managerial topics such as parliamentary procedures for efficient meetings and PFAS's effects on municipal water systems provided valuable insights.

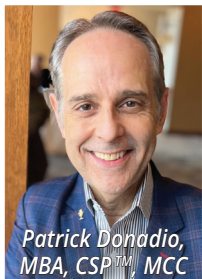
The event's success was evident in the glowing feedback. "Thank you for another solid conference," said one participant, while others remarked, "Very informative and interesting," "I look forward to next year," and "Thanks for the wonderful meeting!"

With another successful conference concluded, EFO continues to provide access to high-quality CPD opportunities for professionals seeking to enhance their expertise. The Fall CPD Conference will return November 6-7, 2025.



DECEMBER SEMINAR

EFO equips engineers to engage in continuous improvement



EFO is dedicated to presenting professional training programs and seminars showcasing the latest business philosophies effective for engineering companies. In December 2024, EFO demonstrated this commitment by partnering with leadership experts Raymond Waite, Jr., MS Computer Engineering, PMP®, and Patrick Donadio, MBA, CSP™, MCC, to present "Engineering Leadership: Kaizen & Systems Thinking for Continuous Improvement."

Kaizen, a Japanese philosophy focused on continuous improvement, complements systems thinking, an approach that helps engineers understand how different components within a system are interconnected. Together, these methods empower engineers to make informed decisions that promote long-term growth and efficiency.



The virtual seminar took a holistic approach to leadership development, equipping participants with tools for self-assessment, continuous improvement, and decision-making. Participants examined key traits of successful leaders and discussed the difference between leading and managing. They explored techniques such as active listening, change process models, feedback loops, systems archetypes, and root cause analysis. One hour focused on ethics training, including data integrity and ethical reporting, promoting a safe and inclusive environment, and managing stress and burnout.

The program received high praise for its practical approach and immediate impact on participants' leadership roles.

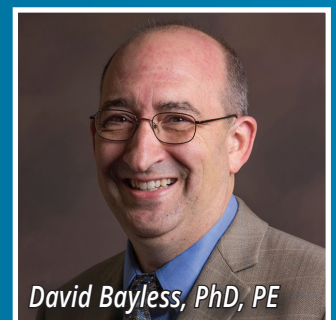
"PMP" is a certification mark of the Project Management Institute, which is registered in the United States and other nations.

The Engineer As Leader training boosts professionals' skills and confidence

The 2024 Engineer As Leader program was a resounding success, bringing back David Bayless, PhD, PE, to elevate participants' leadership skills. Bayless, the former director of Ohio University's Robe Leadership Institute, guided attendees

in improving team performance, handling tough conversations, and making ethical decisions. Through engaging, virtual lessons, participants learned to assess and develop their emotional intelligence, motivate teams, and navigate difficult

conversations. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive; participants called the program "relevant" and "thorough." PEs earned 10 CPD hours while gaining invaluable skills for leading effectively in engineering roles.



DONOR HONOR ROLL (Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024)



EFO Donors,
Thank you for your generous support to the advancement of engineering education in Ohio!

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- Rodney Wilson, PE & Candace Wilson

In Memory of Leon Winget, PhD, PE

- Tina Sutermeister, PE, MBA, FNSPE

* Multiple donations

MAY 16, 2025
Bent Tree Golf Club
Sunbury, OH

EFO ENGINEERS FOUNDATION OF OHIO

32nd benefit golf outing

Support Engineering Scholarships & STEM Education for Ohio's Youth