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CILC ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 2024-2025 PINNACLE AWARDS

Recognizing the Most Distinguished Live Virtual Programs by Renowned Cultural Centers

North Mankato, Minn. (August 8, 2025) — The Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC), a leader in distance learning, announced the 2024-2025 Pinnacle Award Recipients!

Content Providers are field experts and educators from museums, zoos, aquariums, National Parks, Hall of Fames, science, historical, and cultural centers from around the world. Each year, Content Providers are recognized for their "Programs of Distinction" determined by the outstanding ratings they received on evaluations submitted by the educators and activity directors that hosted live virtual field trips experiences. The Content Providers that receive this annual award are recognized as providing programming with exceptional educational value and actively engaging learners.

"The Pinnacle Awards celebrate the best of the best in live virtual learning," said Dr. Tania Lyon, Director of Strategic Learning Systems at CILC. "These Content Providers don't just deliver programs — they ignite curiosity, create real connection with people, and make learning unforgettable.

The first Pinnacle Awards were given in 2008 and have served as a CILC tradition for 17 years. John Bertles from Bash the Trash Environmental Arts who acts as leader of the Pinnacle Education Collaborative and a recipient of an award this year states: "We are honored and thrilled to receive the Pinnacle Award from CILC. During the pandemic Bash the Trash put a tremendous amount of time and energy into moving our educational programs online. CILC provides us a great platform to continue to work with students and educators far beyond the reach of our in-person programs. In addition, we really appreciate CILC's flexible infrastructure which has allowed us to get creative and innovative with our programming and promotion, rather than trying to fit into an awkward and restrictive format. Thank you CILC!"

This year CILC will induct four Content Providers into their Hall of Fame to recognize their 10 consecutive years of receiving the Pinnacle Award. Awards are announced each August to help online communities be aware that high-quality live virtual programs are available to help bring learning to life in any living, learning, or community space.



CILC 2024-2025 PINNACLE AWARD WINNERS

Actors Company Adventure in Medicine & Science (AIMS) Alaska SeaLife Center Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Army Women's Museum Author Valerie Marsh Bash the Trash Environmental Arts Born to Move Movement Adventures Buffalo Zoo Byrnes Health Education Center for Puppetry Arts Challenger Learning Center (Rochester, NY) Challenger Learning Center at Wheeling University (West Virginia) Cleveland Museum of Natural History DC Area National Parks and Partners Denali Education Center East Central Ohio Educational Service Center **Educational Enrichment Endeavors** with Roxann Nys Explore Natural History: University of Nebraska State Museum Fizzics Education (Australia) Ford's Theater Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve **Great Basin National Park** Foundation Greenville Zoo

Homestead National Historical Park International Spv Museum International Wolf Center **ISRAED** Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation **Jewel Cave National Monument** Joshua Tree National Park Kenai Fjords National Park Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site Learn Around the World Liberty Hall Museum Liberty Science Center Long Island Science Center Longwood Gardens Manhattan School of Music Maryland Center for History and Culture McMillen Health Michigan Science Center Mote Marine Laboratory **National Archives** National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum National Museum of the U.S. Army National Park Service Fossils and Caves Nebraska State Historical Society **Ohio History Connection** Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium

Pacific Marine Mammal Center Playful Engineers Poe Museum Pro Football Hall of Fame Reef Authority (Australia) Rocky Mountain National Park Royal Botanical Gardens (Canada) Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology (Canada) Science Center Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Smithsonian American Art Museum Southeast Arizona National Parks The BLM Campbell Creek Science Center The Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center The Mariners' Museum The Mob Museum The National WWII Museum The Toledo Zoo Thomas Jefferson's Monticello Transcended Educational Collaborations **UCAR** Center for Science Education Wild Bird Adventures Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum

Honorable Mentions

The Cleveland Museum of Art

HistoryConnects from Virginia

Museum of HIstory & Culture

The Durham Museum

Hall of Fame Inductees

Born 2 Move Movement Adventures Kenai Fjords National Park

HistoryConnects from the Virginia Museum of History & Culture Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site

Zion National Park

About The Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration

The Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to igniting a passion for learning to cultivate engaged, empowered, and valued lifelong learners, nurtured through access to compelling content and powerful learning experience from the most treasured institutions. Founded in 1994, CILC has developed hundreds of partnerships with organizations including museums, zoos, science, cultural, and historical centers and delivered 113,000 programs globally to 3.5 million students worldwide. CILC is committed to changing lives by making learning accessible, regardless of physical location or financial means. For more information about CILC, please visit cilc.org.

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