

Davidson Fellow Anshul Samar

(\$25,000 Scholarship Recipient)



Age: 15

Cupertino, California



Anshul is entering his sophomore year at Bellarmine College Preparatory school and plans to continue running his company, Alchemist Empire, Inc. In the next few years, Anshul will explore different college majors, including science and business.

Davidson Fellows Submission (*Outside the Box*) In his project, "Igniting Interest in Chemistry with Elementeo

Chemistry Card Game," Anshul seeks to make learning a side effect of fun. In Elementeo, players battle with their element army, activate reactions, create compounds, and conquer opponents using black holes and slippery bases. Anshul hopes that by introducing young people to chemistry in a fun and interactive manner, they will discover a passion for science and pursue it throughout their lives.

Biography

Starting with a \$500 grant from California Association for the Gifted, Anshul embarked on a two and a half year journey to create a chemistry board/card game. Fueled by his desire to show that learning can be fun and that kids can be entrepreneurs, Anshul developed the game play and element personalities. He hired artists, negotiated with manufacturers, talked to lawyers, filed a patent application, gave numerous interviews to TV and print media, and presented at conferences around the country. Anshul is now the CEO of Alchemist Empire, Inc., and he has commercially released the patent pending Elementeo game (www.Elementeo.com).

Anshul settled on chemistry as the subject of his game because he felt it was the most interesting science and the origin of everything on earth. He relates that the world is a big game of "electron exchange" where elements trade electrons to become stable. He found the unique reactions and explosions of the elements and compounds the most appealing.

Balancing school and work as the CEO of his company is challenging but academics remains Anshul's first priority. He is also involved with his school's award-winning speech and debate team.

In his spare time Anshul plays music (guitar, keyboard, drums) and has been dancing hip-hop for as long as he can remember.

Please see next page.



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(Cont.)

Honors/Awards

- 2009 Davidson Fellow
- 2009 National Forensics League, State Qualifiers Speech competition, First Place
- 2009 Ed Rategan Award: Most Outstanding New Member of Speech and Debate Team, Bellarmine College Preparatory
- 2009 Presented at the Silicon Valley American Chemical Society Chapter
- 2009 Presented at the California Association of Gifted Conference
- 2008 Presented at the National Association of Gifted Children's conference
- 2008 Invited to present at the National American Chemical Society Conference
- 2007 Invited to present at the National Academies of Science, Washington D.C.
- 2007 Sartaj Poetry competition, First Place
- 2007 Cupertino City Library Poetry Competition, First Place
- 2007 Cupertino Union School District Whiz Kid
- 2006 California Association of Gifted, \$500 Grant Award

Community Activities

Anshul organized a speech program at his former elementary school with a dozen students. He helped strengthen these students' confidence and abilities in both public speaking and acting. During the next few years, Anshul wants to get children around the world excited about entrepreneurship and hopes to create an "Alchemist Grant" to give others an opportunity to start businesses.

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