Operating in more than fifteen sites across the United States, Europe, and Asia, the ArtScience Prize — an interdisciplinary education program that supports young people as they explore and develop groundbreaking ideas around an annual scientific theme — seeks to prepare the next generation of innovators.

Boston’s Cloud Foundation adapted a curricular program developed in 2003 at Harvard University by David Edwards and launched the ArtScience Prize for area high school students in 2009. The ArtScience Prize focuses on the idea that students can be most innovative and creative when they are given the space to explore interdisciplinary approaches and pursue projects that are driven by their own passions to make a difference to society. In our methodology, science does not serve art nor does art serve science. We erase the line between the two disciplines to allow all types of learners to approach the same content in ways that enable them to deeply acquire knowledge.

The ArtScience Prize is a curricular program in which adult Program Mentors lead teams of students through a project development process framed by an annual scientific theme. Previous scientific themes have included Virtual Worlds, Neuroinformatics, The Future of Water, and Synthetic Biology. Over the course of the program, students mold their ideas (all of which aim at a major need or opportunity in education, culture, industry, or humanitarian engagement) and develop “idea translation proposals.” Graduating teams receive project funding and an invitation to continue to work with mentors and experts to fully realize their dreams.

Having started in Massachusetts, USA, the ArtScience Prize now provides opportunities for youth from age 13 - 25 to engage in long-term, in-depth project development work to create ideas that will impact the world.
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
In addition to the internal support provided by teachers and instructors, ArtScience draws on the resources of the community through partnerships with individuals, organizations, universities, corporations, and more. This manifests itself through internships, field trips to places relevant to student ideas, and guest appearances by visiting experts.

ARTSCIENCE SKILL SET
Through their participation in the ArtScience Prize, students develop 21st Century Skills. We track the development of nine skills we refer to as the ArtScience Skill Set.

What We Believe In

- everyone can make an impact in the world
- the combination of aesthetic and analytical thinking cultivates creativity
- supporting ideas that are personally important, socially relevant, and innovative
- encouraging new ideas that put innovation to practical use
- the process of Idea Translation in tandem with Aspirational Design to build 21st century life skills

ArtScience teaches you how to be prepared for the world: talking to people in public; working with a team; making presentations; being mature enough to work your way through things. It’s like an internship for life.

– Stephanie, third-year ArtScience Prize student