

# A Conversation about Youth Entrepreneurship and Purpose

## Introduction

William Damon  
Stanford Center on Adolescence

## Promoting Youth Contributions to Society The Potential of Entrepreneurship

Richard Lerner  
Tufts University

## The Power of Youth Entrepreneurship Education

Gerald M. Richards  
National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship

## Youth Entrepreneurs

Warda Ali, President and CEO  
Sure Shot Cricket Bats

Eric Foster, Founder  
All High Sports

Andrew Kutches, President and CEO  
Kutches Construction Company

## Entrepreneurship and "Good Work" Engineering Dreams

Josef Mittlemann  
Brown University

**Richard M. Lerner** is Director of the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development and the Bergstrom Chair in Applied Developmental Science in the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development at Tufts University. He is the author or editor of 65 books and more than 450 scholarly articles and chapters. His scholarship integrates the study of public policies and community-based programs with the promotion of positive youth development and youth contributions to civil society.

**Josef Mittlemann** is Clinical Professor of Engineering at Brown University. He created an entrepreneurial series of courses and components of a new concentration. He teaches a capstone course on meaning and purpose. His curricular and co-curricular innovations earned him several alumni service and teaching awards. From 2004 to 2006, Mittlemann was Chief Operating Officer of the leaseholder overseeing the rebuilding of the World Trade Center and other major undertakings.

**Gerald M. Richards** is Executive Director of the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship – Bay Area. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Knowledge Is Power Program (KIPP) and Juma Ventures. Richards has an M.F.A. in writing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a B.A. in Film Studies from Wesleyan University, Connecticut.

**William Damon** is Director of the Stanford Center on Adolescence and Professor of Education at Stanford University. He is the author of 17 books and numerous book chapters and articles on education and human development, especially in the area of moral development. His research has led to a number of widely recognized educational methods, such as community youth charters and mid-career training programs in the field of journalism.

**Warda Ali** is President and CEO of Sure Shot Cricket Gear, an online business specializing in cricket equipment. She won the Merrill Lynch/NFTE Bay Area 2007 Regional Business Plan Competition and the 2007 Smith Barney/NFTE National Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge. She attends Silver Creek High School in San Jose.

**Eric Foster** is the founder of All High Sports, a website for high school athletes to showcase their talent to peers and colleges. Athletes can post their statistics and video highlight footage in one location. Eric is a graduate of NFTE's BizCamp program. He attends Patton University.

**Andrew Kutches** is President and CEO of Kutches Construction Company in San Francisco. His business repairs fences, builds wooden decks, and finishes concrete foundations. He took a NFTE business management class while at Log Cabin Ranch, run by the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department. He attends San Francisco City College.