ILLINOIS INNOVATION PRIZE

Analisa is developing a product that she hopes will motivate, excite, and inspire students to learn about science and engineering. Traditionally, electronics are taught using breadboard kits, which can be intimidating or confusing to young students. Analisa seeks to change this using conductive ink and paper. Her product, the Circuit Scribe, is a rollerball pen filled with conductive silver ink for sketching circuits directly by hand. Circuit Scribe kits consist of the pen, and magnetic components, including LEDs, switches, and sensors that snap onto the drawn circuit when working on a steel-topped table or other magnetic surface. The system is an inexpensive and intuitive way to bring textbook circuit diagrams to life on paper. It teaches students about the function of individual circuit components, and introduces them to the artistic and creative aspects of circuit design. In addition to STEM education applications, the Circuit Scribe finds uses in electronic art and circuit prototyping. Analisa recently marketed the technology with her lab group's startup company, Electroninks, in a successful Kick-starter campaign. She is currently acting as the Director of Product Development and STEM Outreach for Electroninks.

2014 FINALIST

ANALISA RUSSO

PhD Candidate, Materials Science and Engineering

TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEUR CENTER
ENGINEERING AT ILLINOIS