

# Inspiring Future Teachers

Melanie Yee had always planned on becoming a doctor. "I am a hard-core pre-med student and a major in Molecular, Chemistry and Developmental Biology (MCDB)," she says.

But when Yee kept hearing great things about a program called CU Teach, she decided to take Step 1, the introductory course, and teach a brief unit on biology to fifth graders at Sanchez Elementary in Lafayette, Colo. Growing up as a privileged professor's kid in Boulder, her experience at Sanchez was an eye-opener.

At the beginning of her time working with her students, Yee was not sure of the impact she would have. "This was a different population of students that I knew about, academically, but had never experienced myself," Yee says.

By the end of the semester, one of the fifth-grade girls told Yee she wanted to study biochemistry when she grew up. Yee was blown away and felt totally gratified in her decision to take the CU Teach Step 1 teaching course. "When I was 10, I think I wanted to be something like a ballerina! Not a biochemist," says Yee.

Her experience persuaded Yee to pursue her teaching license so that she can teach K-12 students science.

She says that being part of CU Teach and being around other students who want to teach has had a huge influence on her.

"We can change the world by teaching math and science. Not only by teaching kids, but also by having someone tell you that you can do science."



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**Melanie Yee**, Student in CU Teach

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To learn more about the many ways you can make a gift:

## Contact

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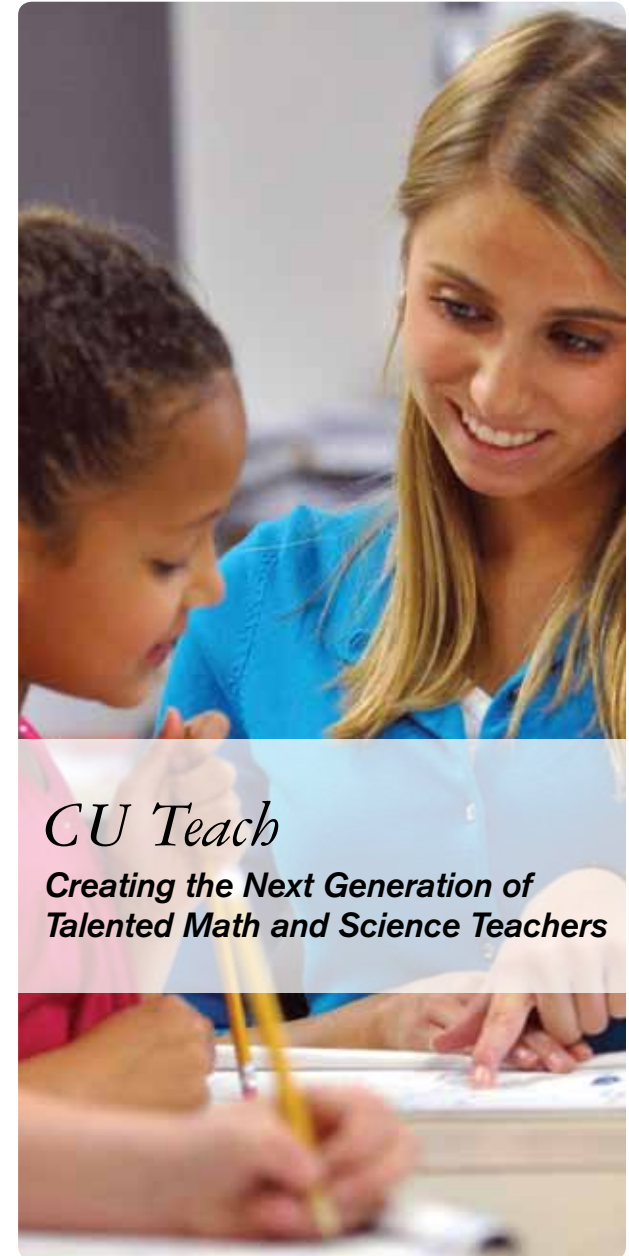
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University of Colorado  
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*Creating Futures*

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*CU Teach*

**Creating the Next Generation of  
Talented Math and Science Teachers**



*“CU Teach makes a difference in the way our teachers are educated and in the way we partner with the community for teacher professional education. It is an interactive model*

*for both teacher preparation and professional development.”*

**Valerie Otero**, Co-director of CU Teach and Professor of Education

## National Need

Throughout the nation, especially in high-poverty schools, students are taught by math and science teachers who did not major in those subjects. Gifts to CU Teach will benefit thousands of K-12 students by providing them with talented and well-trained math and science educators well into the future. It is these well-educated students of tomorrow who hold the keys to this country’s economic vitality.

## What is CU Teach?

Established in 2007, CU Teach recruits talented math and science students at CU-Boulder into teaching careers by giving them early, firsthand, K-12 teaching opportunities. CU Teach allows students to experience the teaching profession as an intellectual endeavor that is exciting and fulfilling.

CU Teach’s four-year program allows students to complete a major in math or science and earn a teaching license at the same time.

# Seize the Opportunity: Make a Difference in So Many Ways



**The ultimate goal of CU Teach is to rigorously prepare and license 50 math and science teachers per year—10 times the number before CU Teach.**

### Here’s how we’ll do it:

- Encourage talented students to explore teaching
- Create content-specific education classes
- Share the wisdom of master teachers
- Offer internship opportunities

In collaboration with the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Education won a \$1.4 million grant from the National Math and Science Initiative for CU Teach. CU-Boulder was one of only 13 institutions in the nation that received a grant to replicate the highly successful UTeach at the University of Texas at Austin.

The National Math and Science Initiative has promised CU Teach an additional \$1 million if we raise \$1 million to endow the program. In other words, the challenge grant will match every donated dollar with an additional dollar. If we are successful, CU Teach will have an endowment of \$2 million to use to continue its work into the future.

Contributions to CU Teach will create a profound and wide-ranging ripple effect. Gifts, both small and large, will make all the difference for young people who discover their passion to teach.

**Make a gift to CU Teach and leverage your donation to create an endowment that truly shapes tomorrow.**



*“I had a great experience with CU Teach. When I came to college I had no intention of becoming a teacher. I had set out to be a doctor, but then I took the Step 1 and Step 2 classes and found my niche. It opened my eyes, and I learned that I really do like teaching and working with kids. And now I am planning to teach high school math.”*

**Megan Collins**, Student in CU Teach