



California Science Center
CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2015 Special Awards

CAPCA Excellence in Production Agriculture Award – For the projects that best explore the industry that makes California the state that feeds the world, the \$31 billion agriculture industry. One award in each division. Award is \$1000. Presented by the California Association of Pest Control Advisors (CAPCA).

Senior Division: S1809, Madison P. Meredith, Tulare County

Junior Division: J1818, Maya Y. Jaffe, Orange County

Center for Plant Cell Biology Award – For scientific achievement in the fields of cell and molecular biology, genomics, bioinformatics, or technology development that will impact our understanding of plant cell biology. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$500 and an invitation to the Annual CEPCEB Award Symposium at UC Riverside. Presented by the Center for Plant Cell Biology of the University of California, Riverside.

Award: S1515, Lauren M. Hinkley, Ventura County

Coastal Science Award – For excellence in coastal science and/or engineering, addressing problems or providing new solutions or technology to coastal and ocean issues. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$500 and student membership in CSBPA, California Chapter. Presented by the California Shore & Beach Preservation Association.

Award: S1105, the team of Annette Chang and Daisy W. Chen, Orange County

Excellence in Environmental Education Award – For projects that best exemplify the role of environmental education in advancing science education in the state. One award in each division. Award is \$500. Each student's school will also receive \$300 for its science department. Presented by the California Environmental Education Foundation (CEEF).

Senior Division: S1005, Sidharth Bommakanti, Alameda County

Junior Division: J1115, Erin K. Lamphear, Humboldt County

LA BioMed Award for Excellence in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology – For achievement in the field of Biochemistry/ Molecular Biology. Limited to the Senior Division. Award is \$1,000. Presented by the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center (LA BioMed).

Award: S0525, the team of Japmeet Sandhu and Ashima Thusu, Fresno County

Math Teachers Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Software – For achievement in mathematics and software studies. This is a tribute to all mathematics and science teaching professionals. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$500. Presented anonymously.

Award: S1403, Sanath K. Devalapurkar, Los Angeles County

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Raytheon Junior Achievement Award – For those projects which demonstrate the greatest potential with ability of achieving technological breakthroughs in the six areas of computer science, electrical engineering, materials engineering, mathematics, mechanical engineering, and physics. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is \$500. Presented by the Raytheon Asian Pacific Association (RAPA) – Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems Company.

Award: J0316, Andrew T. Land, San Mateo County

Award: J0912, Raghav Ganesh, Santa Clara County

Award: J1306, Cameron C. Jones, San Mateo County

Award: J1405, Paul C. Grosen, Santa Barbara County

Award: J1410, Sebastian L. Mellen, San Diego County

Award: J1716, the team of Magnus A. Lauer and Riley I. Mann, Monterey County

Science Teachers Award for Excellence in Electronics and Electromagnetics – For achievement in electronics and electromagnetic studies. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$500. Presented anonymously.

Award: S0926, Vanessa Wang, Alameda County

Silicon Boule Award – For distinctive performance in the physical sciences. This award has been presented annually since 1995 and was originally an end piece of an ultrapure monocrystalline silicon boule. Award is a custom designed silicon die. Presented by Dale L. Hall, Senior Engineer Scientist, retired, TRW Space & Electronics.

Award: S0909, Hannah A. Edge, Alameda County

South Coast AQMD Air Quality or Climate Change Award – For the best air quality or climate change project based on scientific method, clarity of presentation, and the relevance of the results. One award in each division. Award is \$1500. Presented by the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Senior Division: S1112, Leo J. McGrath, Alameda County

Junior Division: J1114, Yoonji A. Kwon, Fresno County

Southern California BioGENEius Award – For excellence in original research in biotechnology and the biomedical sciences. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is an all-expenses paid trip (travel, lodging, membership) for award winner (and chaperone) to compete in the International BioGENEius Competition in June 2015 at the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) meeting in Philadelphia. Honorable Mentions are alternates to the BioGENEius Competition if the award winner is unable to participate. Presented by the Southern California Biomedical Council.

Award: S1520, Anthony K. Kang, San Diego County

Honorable Mention #1: S0509, Parsa Derakhshan, Orange County

Honorable Mention #2: S0508, Min Jean Cho, San Diego County

Honorable Mention #3: S0515, Nivedita Kanrar, Riverside County

Honorable Mention #4: S0518, Vincent Lok, Ventura County

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SPIE Optics & Photonics Award – For the project best demonstrating scientific research and engineering applications of optics, photonics, and related fields. In the Senior Division, First Place receives \$800, Second Place receives \$500. The Junior Division Award is \$500.

Presented by SPIE, the International Society for Optics and Photonics.

Senior Division, First Place: S1707, the team of Shashank Dholakia and Shishir Dholakia, Santa Clara County

Senior Division, Second Place: S0905, Shiloh S. Curtis, Santa Clara County

Junior Division: J0905, Rishabh Rik Bose, Kern County

Sushila & Chandi Charan Kar Award – For an outstanding project in the health sciences, especially with humanitarian consequences and excellence in originality of the idea and understanding of the experimental process. Award is \$500. Presented by the Sheila Kar Health Foundation.

Award: S0525, the team of Japmeet Sandhu and Ashima Thusu, Fresno County

Award: S0527, Rebecca M. Sine, Los Angeles County

Teachers Award for Excellence in Materials Science – For achievement in materials science research and applications. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is \$500. Presented anonymously.

Award: J1306, Cameron C. Jones, San Mateo County

UCLA Brain Research Institute Award – For outstanding science projects in all areas of neuroscience from molecules to mind. One award in each division. Award is \$500. Presented by the UCLA Brain Research Institute (BRI).

Senior Division: S1427, Utkarsh Tandon, Santa Clara County

Junior Division: J1402, Anika Cheerla, Santa Clara County



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Biophysics Award – For the best biophysics related project. Limited to the Senior Division. Award is \$100. Presented by the Biophysical Society.

Award: S0609, Matthew C. Krock, Riverside County

Bone Clones Mammalian Biology Award – For outstanding performance in biology. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is an exact osteological reproduction of a Brown Bear skull. Presented by Bone Clones Osteological Reproductions Inc.

Award: J1207, Grace J. Davis, Monterey County

CAPS Science Achievement Award – For the project best illustrating good scientific methodology in a discipline represented by members of CAPS, including physics, chemistry, biological and environmental science, toxics and energy resources. Limited to students in grades 7-11. Award is \$100, a plaque, and awardee competes for CAPS statewide Outstanding Young Scientist Award. Presented by the California Association of Professional Scientists.

Award: S2114, Eveline S. Mayner, Santa Barbara County

CCGO-AIPG Geoscience Award – For an outstanding project in the field of geosciences. One award in each division. Award is \$250. Honorable Mention receives a certificate. Presented by the American Institute of Professional Geologists, California Section, and the California Council of Geoscience Organizations.

Senior Division: S1114, Yana D. Petri, Santa Clara County

Junior Division: J1016, Anshul Narain, Fresno County

Honorable Mention: S0608, Dhuvarakesh Karthikeyan, Contra Costa County

Honorable Mention: S1111, Michael S. McFarland, Los Angeles County

Honorable Mention: J0806, George J. Khouri, III, Los Angeles County

Honorable Mention: J1004, Somil Bhushan, San Diego County

Center for Plant Cell Biology Award – For scientific achievement in the fields of cell and molecular biology, genomics, bioinformatics, or technology development that will impact our understanding of plant cell biology. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$100 and an invitation to the Annual CEPCEB Award Symposium at UC Riverside. Presented by the Center for Plant Cell Biology of the University of California, Riverside.

Award: S1814, Kapil Sinha, Monterey County

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Clinical Chemistry Award – For interesting and original projects that impact the future of clinical chemistry. Three awards in each division. Award is \$250 in the Senior Division, \$150 in the Junior Division. Presented by the American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Southern California Section.

Senior Division: S0502, Rohan Arora, Alameda County

Senior Division: S0601, Seung Hye Choi, Fresno County

Senior Division: S2124, Gina Y. Yang, Santa Clara County

Junior Division: J0507, Elisha D. Johnston, Los Angeles County

Junior Division: J0612, Nicholas A. Hammons, Los Angeles County

Junior Division: J2109, Laura L. Powers, Santa Clara County

Coastal Science Award – For excellence in coastal science and/or engineering, addressing problems or providing new solutions or technology to coastal and ocean issues. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is \$250 and student membership in CSBPA, California Chapter. Presented by the California Shore & Beach Preservation Association.

Award: J0325, Tyler E. Robertson, Fresno County

Hauta Wissmann Foundation Life Sciences Award – For an outstanding biology project. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is an exact osteological reproduction of a bobcat skull. Presented by the Hauta Wissmann Foundation.

Award: J1219, Caelen G. McQuilkin, Mono County

Nature-Watch Mammalian Biology Award – For excellence in mammalian biology. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is an exact osteological reproduction of a Grizzly Bear skull. Presented by Nature-Watch.

Award: J1201, Emily R. Auten, Santa Cruz County

Plug In America EV Excellence Award – For the best project demonstrating the benefits of plug-in vehicles or advancing the science of vehicle electrification. Award is \$200 divided between the Senior Division winners, \$100 divided between the Junior Division winners. Presented by Plug In America.

Senior Division: S0913, Erik N. Lamp, San Francisco County

Senior Division: S0915, Janet M. Liu, San Mateo County

Junior Division: J0928, Elise J. Winward, San Bernardino County

Junior Division: J1420, Samyak P. Surti, IV, Sacramento County

Skulls Unlimited Recognition Award – For outstanding performance in mammalian biology. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is an exact osteological reproduction of skulls of #1, an American Beaver, #2, a Coyote, and #3, a Raccoon. Presented by Skulls Unlimited International, Inc.

Award #1: J1226, Matt J. Wallin, Orange County

Award #2: J1222, Kristen R. Schiavon, Fresno County

Award #3: J1220, Bailee A. Poole, Fresno County

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Society of Petroleum Engineers Superior Technical Achievement Award – For outstanding technical achievement in projects relating to the development of oil and/or gas resources, mechanics, subsurface fluid flow, and production of those or other energy resources through wellbores, or in projects of a technical nature requiring a high degree of independent thinking, which could be applied to the advancement of the field of petroleum engineering research and/or development. First Place is \$200; Second Place is \$100. Presented by the Los Angeles Chapter of the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

First Place: J0808, Jacob H. Nahama, Kern County

Second Place: S1018, Priya Padmanaban, Santa Clara County

SPIE Optics & Photonics Award – For the project best demonstrating scientific research and engineering applications of optics, photonics, and related fields. This is a continuation of the Special Award listed above. The award is \$300 in the Senior Division and \$200 in the Junior Division. Presented by SPIE, the International Society for Optics and Photonics.

Senior Division: S1422, Amrit Rau, Orange County

Junior Division: S1706, Clement J. Decker, Los Angeles County

Junior Division: J1720, Grady P. Morrissey, Los Angeles County

UC Irvine, Earth System Science Award – For the project best demonstrating outstanding achievement in the study of Earth System Science. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$250. Presented by the University of California, Irvine, Department of Earth System Science.

Award: S1114, Yana D. Petri, Santa Clara County

UCLA Brain Research Institute Award – For outstanding science projects in all areas of neuroscience from molecules to mind. Two place awards in each division. This is a continuation of the Special Award listed above. Second Place award is \$100, and Third Place award is \$50. Presented by the UCLA Brain Research Institute (BRI).

Senior Division, Second Place: S1223, Pravin Ravishanker, Santa Clara County

Senior Division, Third Place: S0401, Audrey L. Carman, Ventura County

Junior Division, Second Place: J2216, Xi-Kai I. Wu, San Diego County

Junior Division, Third Place: J2214, Angelina J. Taylor, Ventura County