2022 CSEF Sponsored Awards Winners

The 2022 California Science and Engineering Fair (CSEF) provides two types of awards. Category Awards are given in each of the Fair’s 19 Junior Division and 17 Senior Division Categories, through judging by several dozen panels of experts recruited by CSEF. Concurrent with these Category Awards, Sponsored Awards are presented by outside Sponsor organizations ranging across universities, non-profits, and commercial groups interested in supporting scientific and engineering accomplishments among California students.

These Sponsors provide monetary awards and their own expert judges who study projects and interview students. Sponsors determine their award criteria and recipients, subject only to the overriding requirement that award selection must be based on bona fide scientific merit.

For the 2022 California Science and Engineering Fair, 20 Sponsors presented 48 Sponsored Awards valued at $29,150. The Fair thanks our Sponsors for their generosity and commitment.

For information about becoming a Sponsor, contact Bob Anderson, CSEF Director of Sponsored Awards, at CSEFExtAwards@gmail.com.

A&WMA Environmental Leadership Awards – For exceptional projects that enhance the knowledge and understanding of environmental issues. Sponsored by the Air and Waste Management Association (A&WMA), West Coast Section.
   $500 Junior Division Environmental Engineering Award: J-11-11, the team of Nandana Maheskumar, Laasya Pandravada, and Sara Yoshida
   $500 Senior Division Environmental Science Award: S-11-37, Meera Iyer

AACC Clinical Chemistry Awards – For innovative projects that may impact diagnostic testing in healthcare. Sponsored by the Southern California Section of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC).
   $200 Junior Division Biochemistry/Molecular Biology Award: J-05-13, Samaira Mehta
   $200 Junior Division Chemistry Award: J-06-03, Alyssa Tran
   $200 Junior Division Toxicology Award: J-22-03, Rory Hu
   $200 Senior Division Biochemistry/Molecular Biology Award: S-05-24, Matthew Noto
   $200 Senior Division Chemistry Award: S-06-14, Sana Rajesh
   $200 Senior Division Toxicology Award: S-21-02, Aja Zou

AIPG Geoscience Awards – For excellence in geological science projects. Sponsored by the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG), California Section.
   $250 First Place Geoscience Award: S-09-10, Aleksey Valouev
   $150 Second Place Geoscience Award: S-09-11, Brian Chen
   $100 Third Place Geoscience Award: J-11-17, the team of Omar Aly and Hadi Naveed

Biophysics Award – For the best biophysics-related project. Sponsored by the Biophysical Society.
   $100 Biophysics Award: S-08-52, Anirudh Venkatraman

Broadcom Coding with Commitment Award – For the project that best demonstrates a combination of STEM knowledge, computation/coding, and passion for helping the community, including a Raspberry Pi Foundation Official RP400 Personal Computer Kit. Sponsored by the Broadcom Foundation.
   $250 Coding with Commitment Award: J-10-09, Jeanelle Dao
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CAPS Science Achievement Award – For the project that illustrates good scientific methodology in physics, chemistry, biological sciences, biochemistry, environmental sciences, plant sciences, or energy resources. Sponsored by the California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS).

$100 Science Achievement Award: S-21-07, Anna Entin

CSBPA Best Coastal Science Awards – For achievement in coastal and ocean science, including student membership in the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA). Sponsored by the California Shore and Beach Preservation Association (CSBPA).

$250 Junior Division Best Coastal Science Award: J-18-13, Ronit Shiroy
$500 Senior Division Best Coastal Science Award: S-03-23, Bella Rose Schremmer

Director’s Most Innovative Alternative Energy Project Award – For the project that incorporates the most innovative alternative energy concept and analysis. Sponsored by Bob Anderson, CSEF Director of Sponsored Awards.

$200 Most Innovative Alternative Energy Award: J-02-05, William Yuan

Drs. S. & C.C. Kar Award – For the student having excellence in original ideas and scientific thinking, passion for a career in a healthcare field, in-depth knowledge, and superior presentation of the science project. Sponsored by the Sheila Kar Health Foundation.

$1,000 Drs. S. & C.C. Kar Award: S-15-11, Pranav Moudgalya

IRI Human Subjects Research Awards – For projects that incorporate the most innovative research involving human subjects. Sponsored by the International Research Institute (IRI) of North Carolina.

$300 First Place IRI Award: S-04-27, Katherine Kricorian
$200 Second Place IRI Award: S-10-22, Ashvin Arora
$200 Third Place IRI Award: S-04-07, the team of Amirhosein Abarham, Aryan Inamdar, and Krish Katariya
$100 Fourth Place IRI Award: S-12-04, Kamran Ansari
$100 Fifth Place IRI Award: S-10-18, Rishabh Ambavanekar

Lemelson Early Inventor Prize – For the best young inventor creating a promising solution to real-world problems. Sponsored by The Lemelson Foundation in partnership with the Society for Science.

$100 Early Inventor Award: J-03-04, Lucas Katz-Carreno

Math Teacher’s Achievement Awards – For achievement in mathematics and computer science studies as a tribute and to show appreciation for all mathematics teaching professionals. Sponsored anonymously by a generous donor.

$1,700 Junior Division Mathematical Sciences Award: J-14-12, Caleb Kodama
$2,500 Senior Division Mathematical Sciences Award: S-14-17, William Huang
$2,500 Senior Division Computational Systems & Analysis Award: S-08-06, Houjun Liu

National Geographic That’s Geography Award: Cultivating Empathy for the Earth – For the project best demonstrating solutions to the earth’s most pressing challenges around oceans, land, wildlife, human history and cultures, and human ingenuity. Sponsored by the National Geographic Society.

$100 That’s Geography Award: S-11-34, Suhana Shrivastava
Regeneron Biomedical Sciences Award – For the project best demonstrating an impressive command of biomedical sciences and Regeneron’s five core values: lead with science; take on big ideas; make it happen; be great together; and do what’s right. Sponsored by Regeneron.

$500 Biomedical Sciences Award: S-23-14, Samagra Pandey

Saban Family Foundation Scholar Prizes – For the top projects by a female scholar providing a positive impact to her community. Sponsored by the Saban Family Foundation.

$1,500 Junior Division First Place Award: J-11-16, Orchita Chakraborty
$1,250 Junior Division Second Place Award: J-05-13, Samaira Mehta
$2,000 Senior Division First Place Award: S-11-01, Jacqueline Prawira
$1,500 Senior Division Second Place Award: S-05-21, Maanasa Ramprasad

SoCalGas Energy and Future Engineer Awards – For the projects best demonstrating outstanding scientific research and engineering in clean energy. Sponsored by the Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas).

$1,000 Junior Division Energy Award: J-02-08, Clarina Manuel
$1,500 Senior Division Future Engineer Award: S-11-27, Maryam Ismail

South Coast AQMD Air Quality Awards – For projects that explain measurement or reduction of air pollution and health effects thereof. Sponsored by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

$1,500 Junior Division Air Quality Award: J-14-12, Caleb Kodama
$1,500 Senior Division Air Quality Award: S-08-25, Kyleen Liao

Southern California National BioGENEius Award – For outstanding original and independent research in the biosciences, including the opportunity to participate in the International BioGENEius Competition. Sponsored by the Southern California Biomedical Council (SoCalBio).

$1,250 Senior Division SoCal BioGENEius Award: S-05-37, Mahesh Arunachalam

UCLA Brain Research Institute Awards – For research achievement, innovation, and interpretation in any area related to the brain in health and sickness. Sponsored by the Brain Research Institute (BRI), University of California, Los Angeles.

$250 Junior Division First Place Award: J-07-06, the team of Disha Gupta and Tanvi Sivakumar
$150 Junior Division Second Place Award: J-07-11, Tanner Benjamin
$100 Junior Division Third Place Award: J-07-12, Mina Fedor
$250 Senior Division First Place Award: S-12-09, Atulya Mandyam
$150 Senior Division Second Place Award: S-23-08, Alexander Lan
$100 Senior Division Third Place Award: S-12-04, Kamran Ansari

USC Marshall School of Business DSO and FBE Awards – For the best projects demonstrating excellence in Data Sciences and Operations (DSO) and Finance and Business Economics (FBE). Sponsored by the USC Marshall School of Business.

$1,000 Best DSO and FBE Award: S-04-10, Jude Alexis
$250 Best DSO and FBE Runner-Up Award: J-07-06, the team of Disha Gupta and Tanvi Sivakumar
$250 Best DSO and FBE Runner-Up Award: J-07-18, Aya Ajanovic
$250 Best DSO and FBE Runner-Up Award: S-04-27, Katherine Kricorian