



California Science Center
CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2017 Special Awards

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 \$1250 and an invitation to the Annual CEPCEB Award Symposium at the University of California, Riverside. Presented by the Center for Plant Cell Biology, UC Riverside.

Award: S1908, Esther E. Koh, Riverside County

LA BioMed Award for Excellence in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology – For achievement in the field of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$1250. Presented by the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute.

Award: S0506, Catherine S. Beaudin, Santa Clara County

Math Teacher's Award for Achievement in Mathematical Sciences – For achievement in mathematics and computer science studies. This is in tribute and to show appreciation for all mathematics and science teaching professionals. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$1250. Presented anonymously.

Award: S1516, Rachana Madhukara, San Diego County

Past CSSF Chair's Award for Positive Impact to Social Good and a Friendlier Planet – For projects that have the largest potential positive impact to “social” good and a friendlier planet. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Two awards of \$1250. Presented by past CSSF Chairs, Liz Snyder, Keller Williams Realty, and Hal Snyder, Southern California Gas Company.

Award: J0803, Nishita S. Belur, Santa Clara County

Award: J0809, Tejal Patel, Orange County

Promotely Innovation Award – For innovative projects in the life sciences and physical sciences. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Two awards of \$2500. Presented by Promotely.

Life Science Award: S0523, Ilene M. Shturman, Placer County

Physical Science Award: S1816, Richard K. Korshkov, Placer County

Raytheon Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Special Award – For those projects demonstrating the potential of achieving technological breakthroughs in the areas of computer science, electrical engineering, materials engineering, mathematics, mechanical engineering, and physics. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Three awards of \$1250. Presented by the Raytheon Asian Pacific Association (RAPA).

Award: J0811, Gregory V. Saldanha, Alameda County

Award: J1004, Andrew C. Chiang, Santa Clara County

Award: J1410, Caitlin M. Gorin, Santa Clara County

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

Senior Division: S1208, Jennifer Hernandez-Mora, Santa Barbara County

Junior Division: J1205, Noah M. Cain, San Bernardino County



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A&WMA Environmental Leadership Award – For an exceptional project that furthers the knowledge and understanding of environmental issues. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Two awards of \$250. Presented by the Air and Waste Management Association, West Coast Section.

Environmental Engineering: S1107, the team of Penelope A. Brittingham and Emma R. Freedman, Ventura County

Environmental Science: S1209, Shloka V. Janapaty, Santa Clara County

Altamedix Award for Outstanding Achievement in Science – For the projects that best use a scientific approach to solve the most challenging problems. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Two awards of \$500. Presented by Altamedix.

Award: S0523, Ilene M. Shturman, Placer County

Award: S1816, Richard K. Korshkov, Placer County

American Institute of Professional Geologists Geoscience Award – For excellence in the field of geosciences. Award is \$250. Presented by the American Institute of Professional Geologists, California Section.

Award: J0903, Mia H. Chou, Santa Barbara County

Honorable Mention: J0906, Gillian M. Healey, Santa Cruz County

Honorable Mention: J0909, Luke R. Merickel, Kern County

Honorable Mention: J1127, Nidhya Shivakumar, Santa Clara County

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

Award: S0699, Rohan Mehrotra, Santa Clara County

Bone Clones Research Award – For the project that best demonstrates the use of the scientific method in original research in Mammalian Biology or Zoology. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is a \$150 Bone Clones gift certificate. Presented by Bone Clones Osteological Reproductions.

Award: J1314, Evelyn Tran, Orange County

California Shore and Beach Preservation Association Coastal Science Award – For achievement in coastal and ocean science. Award in the Senior Division is \$500; award in the Junior Division is \$250. Award also includes student membership in the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA). Presented by the California Shore and Beach Preservation Association.

Senior Division: S2399, Rhitishah Yuva Raju, Sacramento County

Junior Division: J1102, Zoie S. Andre, Humboldt County

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CAPS Science Achievement Award – For the project that best illustrates good scientific methodology in physics, chemistry, biological sciences, biochemistry, environmental sciences, plant sciences, or energy resources. Limited to students in grades 7-11. Award is \$100, a plaque, and eligibility to compete for CAPS statewide Outstanding Young Scientist Award. Presented by the California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS).

Award: J1117, Melina S. Ghodsi, 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. This is a continuation of the Special Award listed elsewhere. Honorable Mentions receive no cash award. Presented by the Center for Plant Cell Biology, UC Riverside.

Honorable Mention: S0501, Lauren S. Adachi, San Francisco County

Honorable Mention: S1914, Yushan Su, Riverside County

Clinical Chemistry Award – For interesting and original projects that impact the future of clinical chemistry. Three awards of \$200 in each division. Presented by the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC), Southern California Chapter.

Senior Division, Biochemistry/ Molecular Biology: S0516, Benjamin C. Liu, Los Angeles County

Senior Division, Chemistry: S0602, Josef Alavi, Marin County

Senior Division, Toxicology: S2210, the team of Homin Key, Jaskirat S. Sandhu, and Shotaro Yamaguchi, Kern County

Junior Division, Biochemistry/ Molecular Biology: J0502, Jessie L. Gan, San Diego County

Junior Division, Chemistry: J0623, Anirudh Venkatraman, Santa Clara County

Junior Division, Toxicology: J2207, Mason S. Dougherty, Fresno County

Director's Award for Most Innovative Alternative Energy Project – For the project that incorporates the most innovative alternative energy concept and usage. Limited to projects in the Junior Division Alternative Energy category. Award is \$100. Presented by Bob Anderson, CSSF Director of External Awards.

Award: J0215, Marrin G. Nerenberg, Fresno County

Doctors Sushila and Chandi Charan Kar Award – For originality, excellence in scientific thinking, passion for a career in the healthcare field, depth of knowledge, and excellence in project presentation. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Award is \$1000. Presented by the Sheila Kar Health Foundation.

Award: S1302, the team of Haraj S. Dhese and Gurinder S. Jassar, Kern County

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Intel Excellence in Computer Science Award – For excellence in computer science. Limited to projects in the Senior Division. Four awards of \$200. Presented by the Society for Science and the Public.

Award: S0813, Holly M. Jackson, Santa Clara County

Award: S0812, the team of Lauren M. Hinkley and Sarah H. Kazmie, Ventura County

Award: S0802, Guadalupe Bernal, Sacramento County

Award: S0827, Pravin Ravishanker, Santa Clara County

KGI Explore Pharmacy Award – For the project that best demonstrates excellence in the field of toxicology. Award is \$200 and a plaque. Presented by the Keck Graduate Institute School of Pharmacy.

Award: S2211, Momtahina Tahmida, Los Angeles County

KGI PharmaD+ Award – For the project that best demonstrates innovation in the exploration of commercial and real-world consumer products. Award is \$200 and a plaque. Presented by the Keck Graduate Institute School of Pharmacy.

Award: J2015, Jalen P. Vuong, Riverside County

Nature-Watch.com Award – For excellence in nature study. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Award is a \$50 Nature-Watch gift certificate. Presented by Nature-Watch.

Award: J1301, Sae H. Ackerstein, 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 or electric mobility. Two awards in the Senior Division of \$100; two awards in the Junior Division of \$50. Presented by Plug In America.

Senior Division: S0612, Philippe Hansen Estruch, San Diego County

Senior Division: S0802, Guadalupe Bernal, Sacramento County

Junior Division: J0324, Preston D. Reynolds, Los Angeles County

Junior Division: J1417, Veronica D. McKinney, San Diego County

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Raytheon Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Recognition Award – For those projects demonstrating the potential of achieving technological breakthroughs in the areas of computer science, electrical engineering, materials engineering, mathematics, mechanical engineering, and physics. Limited to projects in the Junior Division. Ten awards of \$250. Presented by the Raytheon Asian Pacific Association (RAPA).

Award: J0306, the team of Sophia C. Calvillo and Sarah M. Fong, Los Angeles County

Award: J0307, Michelle Chen, Santa Clara County

Award: J0808, Sanjita Pamidimukkala, Contra Costa County

Award: J0814, Anjali Singh, Santa Clara County

Award: J1003, Faith J. Bray, Ventura County

Award: J1006, Ankita B. Deep, Alameda County

Award: J1408, Cassidy R. Gereke, Kern County

Award: J1411, Neve G. Greenwald, Santa Barbara County

Award: J1813, Arsh Muhib, San Joaquin County

Award: J1814, Thomas A. Radujko, Santa Barbara County

SPIE Optics and Photonics Award – For the projects best demonstrating scientific research and engineering applications in optics, photonics, and related fields. Three place awards in the Senior Division of \$900, \$600, and \$500; three place awards in the Junior Division of \$250, \$150, and \$100. Presented by SPIE, the International Society for Optics and Photonics.

Senior Division, First Place: S1523, Shalin V. Shah, Orange County

Senior Division, Second Place: S1803, Dominic H. Catanzaro, San Diego County

Senior Division, Third Place: S1808, the team of Shashank Dholakia and Shishir Dholakia, Santa Clara County

Junior Division, First Place: J0223, Ian G. Weiss, Orange County

Junior Division, Second Place: J1002, Matthew S. Brawders, Ventura County

Junior Division, Third Place: J1413, Ty R. Koebler, Santa Cruz County

UCLA Brain Research Institute Award – For research achievement, innovation, and interpretation in any area related to the brain in health or sickness. Three place awards in each division of \$250, \$100, and \$50. Presented by the UCLA Brain Research Institute (BRI).

Senior Division, First Place: S1309, Nithya Krishnamurthy, San Diego County

Senior Division, Second Place: S0417, Nitya Parthasarathy, Orange County

Senior Division, Third Place: S0518, Kalyan Nath, Orange County

Junior Division, First Place: J0709, Catherine J. Ikeda, San Francisco County

Junior Division, Second Place: J0717, Andrew Qin, Santa Barbara County

Junior Division, Third Place: J0409, Jasmine T. Gates, Santa Cruz County