

St. Mary's County Science Fair Information

Eligibility Criteria:

Any student in public or nonpublic education in grades 6-8 (Junior Division) and grades 9-12 (Senior Division).

Abstract:

"Science Fair is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their interest in science and their understanding of scientific inquiry. Participation will develop skills in critical thinking, scientific literacy, and communication. A successful science project clearly reveals that science is more than a body of knowledge; it is a way of thinking and a way of understanding. These skills and processes help prepare students for a changing and challenging future."

Full Description:

The Maryland and National Standards require that students be involved in the processes of science in the course of learning concepts in science. This includes experimental design. The Science and Engineering Fair is an excellent vehicle for implementing experimental design, extending understanding, and applying scientific concepts in the classroom. Students are challenged to inquire, hypothesize, develop procedures for testing, analyze data, and draw conclusions based upon results. Findings are presented, defended, and judged at the St. Mary's County Science Fair. Winners in various categories may go on to compete at the Prince George's Regional Science Fair, which is affiliated with the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

Categories:

Animal Sciences	Earth Science & Planetary Science	Mathematical Sciences
Behavioral and Social Sciences	Engineering: Electrical & Mechanical	Medicine and Health Sciences
Biochemistry	Engineering: Materials and Bioengineering	Microbiology
Cellular and Molecular Biology	Energy & Transportation	Physics and Astronomy
Chemistry	Environmental Management	Plant Sciences
Computer Science	Environmental Sciences	

History:

This year's Fair will be the 50th annual event. An all-volunteer board administers the Fair. In the past eight years, St. Mary's County students have won grand prizes at the Prince George's Regional Science Fair eight times. Several students have won scholarships. Nine students have attended the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in the past eight years.

Needs:

Donations for operating expenses, awards (monetary or other) for competitors, mentors for students, volunteers (for planning, set-up, etc.), support for students/chaperones attending the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, and judges for various categories are welcome.

The St. Mary's County Science and Engineering Fair Board is an all volunteer, non-profit, IRS 501 (c) (3) corporation classified as a public charity, funded solely by community contributions. All contributions are directly applied to promoting an interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics among our community members. Contributions are fully tax deductible under IRS code section 170.

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