



Florida Junior Academy of Science and Florida Science Talent Search

A Division of the Florida Academy of Sciences

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Florida Science Talent Search

Sixteen seniors competed in the 2006 Florida Science Talent Search. Cindy Perrella, Talent Search Coordinator, reviewed the students' GPA's, SAT or ACT scores, resumes, results of the FJAS competition and interviewed each student. She and the FJAS judges were very impressed with the students.

The **Awards of Excellence** went to: (listed in alphabetical order)

Nkemka Esiobu - Cooper City
Brock Hankins - Spruce Creek
Christopher Hernandez - Spruce Creek
Sarah McKenzie - Spruce Creek
Sarah Nam - Saint Petersburg
Alexander Robel - MAST

Merit Awards were presented to: (listed in alphabetical order)

Lauren Lesser - Pine Crest
Chelsea Rence - Sarasota
Kalie Sanders - Spruce Creek

Cindy Perrella also announced additional awards, only available through the Florida Talent Search Competition. AAAS memberships were awarded to Alexander Robel and Chelsea Rence. Two hundred dollar scholarships were awarded to Sarah McKenzie and Kalie Sanders. The two trips to the National Youth Science Camp were awarded to Nkemka Esiobu and Sarah Nam. Alternates for the camp are Sarah McKenzie and Brock Hankins. FJAS scholarships are only given to students attending a college or university in Florida.

2006 FJAS Annual Meeting

One hundred twenty FJAS members submitted research papers to the preliminary competition. The team of judges selected 81 papers for the March 11th competition. Sixty-seven students presented their research at Florida Institute of Technology. The state competition could not have been possible without the assistance of:

John Trefry and Hamid Rassoul for local arrangements and assistance

Florida Institute of Technology for opening their facilities to FJAS

John Trefry FAS president, Welcoming remarks

Crystal Lake Middle Chapter (Presidential) for the snacks, drinks and cd cases

American Heritage Chapter (Vice Presidential) for the assistance at registration and moderators

Manatee High Chapter (Secretarial) for help at registration, videography and mailings

Cindy Perrella for coordinating Talent Search

Patricia Zalo for coordinating FJAS

FJAS sponsors and teachers who encourage, assist, and bring students to the competition

FJAS members who submit and present research

Parents of FJAS members for their support

Judges from Florida Academy of Sciences, Barry University and FIT for their time and expertise

Rich Regan for helping with the plaques

During the Business meeting **American Heritage** was elected the Presidential Chapter while

Spruce Creek was elected Vice Presidential Chapter. Alexander Robel gave a brief report on his trip to AJAS. Shoshana Tell was recognized, in absentia, for being a finalist at Intel Science Talent Search. Students who will compete at SSEF and ISEF were recognized and applauded.

Winners at the 2006 Florida Junior Academy of Science Competition

J1 - Junior Session 1

- 1st Karah Gerhke of Stone
- 2nd Marie Draper of Stone
- 3rd Jason Yontef of Crystal Lake
- 4th Melissa Smith of Stone

J2 - Junior Session 2

- 1st Muna Oli of Lincoln
- 2nd Alexander Ronay of Burne
- 3rd Natalie Borrego or Bell
- 4th Chelsea Townsend of Crystal Lake

J3 - Junior Session 3

- 1st Mason White of Stone
- 2nd Steve Gofer of Crystal Lake
- 3rd John McLaughlin of Crystal Lake
- 4th Kathryn Moschouris of St Thomas Aquinas

S1 - Senior Session 1

- 1st Rohit Thummalapalli of American Heritage
- 2nd Andrew Jansen of Spruce Creek
- 3rd Chloe Golden of American Heritage
- 4th Nina Wong of Krop

S2 - Senior Session 2

- 1st Kimberly Sparling of Fort Lauderdale
- 2nd Gene Rodrick of Oak Hall
- 3rd David Mariutto of American Heritage
- 4th Emily Sutherland of Edgewood

S3 - Senior Session 3

- 1st Francisco Alvarez of Pine Crest
- 2nd Melissa Stone of Pine Crest
- 3rd Kelly Chacon of American Heritage
- 4th Gabriel Seidner of Pine Crest

T1 - Talent Search Session 1

- 1st Sarah McKenzie of Spruce Creek
- 2nd Nkemka Esiobu of Cooper City
- 3rd Chelsea Rence of Sarasota
- 4th Christopher Hernandez of Spruce Creek

T2 - Talent Search Session 2

- 1st Sarah Nam of Saint Petersburg
- 2nd Brock Hankins of Spruce Creek
- 3rd Alexander Robel of MAST
- 4th Kalie Sanders of Spruce Creek

Special Awards for Outstanding Presentations were awarded to

Emily Bliven of Saint Thomas Aquinas
Aaron Enten of American Heritage
Jeremy Fowers of MAST
Eric Holshouser of Episcopal
Jason Miles of Spruce Creek
Daniel Murphy of Episcopal
Gaytri Patel of Blanche Ely
Kayla Paulk of Blanche Ely
Sufian Sorathia of Spruce Creek

Opportunities for 2007 Graduates

Juniors in high school who placed in an experimental session of the 2006 FJAS competition may be eligible for two additional awards as high school seniors. These are only available through FJAS:

AAAS Membership
AJAS/AAAS conference

Applications are due to Pat Zalo by September 1, 2006 and must include:

Resume not exceeding 2 pages
Plans for 2006/7 research to present at FJAS

Information sheets were available at FJAS

FJAS was started to prepare students to compete in the Intel Science Talent Search and other competitions. Check out the FJAS pages at: www.floridaacademyofsciences.org for more competitions, their websites and deadlines.

Congratulations to all of the winners

We hope to see you at the St Petersburg campus of the University of South Florida in March
2007

Change in Bylaws

During the business meeting the proposal to change the number of mailings was approved. A discussion followed concerning the Chapter dues. The membership voted and the new chapter dues will be \$20 per year. In addition those members wanting to receive all newsletters mailed will pay \$10 dues and members can join as late as February 1st with \$10 dues. Only 1 mailing, a calendar for posting items on the website, will be sent to all members with club cards and receipt.

Florida Junior Academy of Science is a division of the Florida Academy of Sciences



Patricia L Zalo

FJAS Coordinator

2812 26th Avenue Drive West

Bradenton FL 34205-3707

(941) 756-4156 (Home)

(941) 714-7300 x2115 (Work)

(941) 741-3443 (Fax)

pzalo@yahoo.com

zalop@fc.manatee.k12.fl.us

March 22, 2006

Dear FJAS Sponsor,

Thanks for your help this past year. For those who came to the competition, I certainly appreciate your dedication to your students. I know, first hand, how challenging it is to get students to compete. If you have any suggestions to improve the organization and competition, please contact me.

I was certainly pleased with the number of students at FJAS that will be competing at SSEF and ISEF, WOW!!! I expect the statistics to once again show that FJAS competitors win more awards at SSEF.as it has in the last 8 years.

I spoke with a sponsor on March 17 that did not come to FJAS this year. She had a conflict with the date and also some problems with the electronic submission of the papers. If you had difficulty with the process this year, please let me know. I can take the papers, but some things were easier electronically, some were worse. As with all changes the first year can be challenging. I personally can't read most Word documents so PDF is easier for me. I will need to limit the size of the papers. Many filters do not allow large documents. The graphics make the document much larger and do not aid the paper selection. Please look for more guidelines for next year. I received many papers from the sponsors. This is great but I can receive the papers from the students, so it is not so much work for the sponsors. Next year I would appreciate one paper per email with the student's name in the subject and the title of the document the important words of the title. Thanks for your help this year. Please get back to me with any suggestions you might have to make this process easier.

Thanks again for your help in disseminating information to your members and encouraging them in their research and competitions. We could not have an organization and competition without your help.

Sincerely,

Patricia L Zalo FJAS Coordinator