Florida Junior Academy of Science
A Division of the Florida Academy of Sciences

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2008 FJAS Annual Meeting
Just over one hundred FJAS members submitted research papers to the preliminary competition. The team of judges selected 70 papers for the March 15th competition. Sixty students presented their research at Jacksonville University. The state competition could not have been possible without the assistance of:
Daniel McCarthy for local arrangements
Jacksonville University for opening their facilities to FJAS
Daniel Odell - Florida Academy of Sciences leadership and photos of winners
American Heritage and Spruce Creek Chapters (Co-Presidential) for the assistance, moderators, gifts and drinks
Pine Crest Chapter (Vice Presidential) for the snacks and moderators
Manatee High Chapter (Secretarial) for help at registration and preparation of registration packages
Patricia Zalo for coordinating FJAS
FJAS sponsors 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 and Jacksonville University for their time and expertise.
During the Business meeting American Heritage and Spruce Creek were again elected as Co-Presidential Chapters while Pine Crest was also re-elected for the Vice Presidential Chapter.

Special Awards
FJAS offers some very special awards. Students who compete at FJAS as juniors have the opportunity to present their research at the American Junior Academy of Science (AJAS) which is held at the same time at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Students who place at FJAS as juniors can apply for a full paid scholarship while other students who competed at FJAS can apply for nomination only where they will pay their own expenses. It is an awesome experience. This past year five students and 2 teachers from Pine Crest attended AJAS/AAAS in Boston. During the Business meeting at FJAS Leah May, Melissa Oppenheim, Zachary Silver, and Gabriella Wagner gave brief reports on the trip to AJAS. They all agreed it was a wonderful experience. I know of no other place where high school students can interact with so many scientists from around the country. There is a special breakfast for the students and many of the scientists.
The deadline for the application for both the scholarship and nomination are due September 1st. These applications will be sent via email now to save expenses in sending the applications to the judges to select the scholarship winner and determine nominations.
AAAS memberships are also available to students who place at FJAS as juniors in high school.
The two awards can be on the same application. We can grant 1 high school boy and 1 high school girl this membership each year. We also give these awards to seniors at the FJAS competition for their first year of college.

Winners at the
2008 Florida Junior Academy of Science Competition

J1- Junior Biological
1st Samantha Prabakaran of St Michael
2nd Joseph W Paul III of Alice B Landrum
3rd Apurv Suman of Oak Hall
4th Ashley Baros-Kabler of Oak Hall

J2 - Junior Physical
1st Brittany Wenger of R. Dan Nolan
2nd Jason Draper of Stone
3rd Dalton Stanley of Stone
4th Max Benaroch of Crystal Lake

S1 - Senior Biological
1st Gordon Wilson of Spruce Creek
2nd Zachary Silver of Pine Crest
3rd Gabriela Wagner of Pine Crest
4th Demyana Azer of Spruce Creek

S2 - Senior Environmental
1st Zaki Moustafa of A.W. Dreyfoos
2nd Emmanuel Bassily of Spruce Creek
3rd Leah Schecter of Spruce Creek
4th Brooke Wallace of Palm Bay

S3 - Senior Medical
1st Sabrina Prabakaran of Canterbury
2nd Isabelle Dortonne of North Miami Beach
3rd Jared Goodman of Oak Hall
4th Sunny Kumar of Saint Andrews

S4 - Senior Physical
1st Nathan Moore of Episcopal
2nd Fedja Kadribasic of West Boca Raton
3rd Halei Benefield of Spruce Creek
4th Ann Dietrich of Lawton Chiles
Special Awards for Outstanding Presentations
were awarded to:
Kelly Chacon of American Heritage
Damish Shah of Pine Crest

Special Awards to Seniors
AAAS memberships were awarded to Emmanuel Bassily of Spruce Creek and Melissa Oppenheim of Pine Crest
FJAS scholarships were awarded to Isabelle Dortonne of North Miami Beach and Zaki Moustafa of A.W. Dreyfoos

Special Recognition of SSEF and ISEF finalists
Many FJAS competitors stood when asked if they would be competing at the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida (SSEF) in mid April. We hope that everyone was able to learn something from the FJAS experience that will help at the competition. Eight students also were congratulated for being selected to compete at the International Science & Engineering Fair in Atlanta in May.
For the past eleven years (every year that the statistics have been calculated) FJAS competitors have consistently outranked the other Florida students at SSEF by winning significantly more First and Second places. We hope to be able to say twelve years. We will see many of you in Lakeland and a few in Atlanta.

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

We hope to see you at Saint Leo University on March 21, 2009