

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

S5 - Senior Literary

1st Alan Chen of James S Rickards

2nd Naimonu James of Pine Crest

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 (SEEF) 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.floridaacademyofsciences.org/fjas.htm for more competitions, their websites and deadlines.

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