

Florida Junior Academy of Science

A Division of the Florida Academy of Sciences

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2010 FJAS Annual Meeting

One hundred and twenty FJAS members submitted research papers to the preliminary competition. The team of judges selected 79 papers for the March 20th competition. Sixty-six students presented their research at Indian River State College. The state competition could not have been possible without the assistance of:

Mark Wade for local arrangements

Indian River State College for opening their facilities to FJAS

Richard Turner - FAS President

Judges from Florida Academy of Sciences and Indian River State College for their time and expertise

American Heritage - Presidential Chapter who provided snacks and drinks and assisted with awards

Spruce Creek - Vice Presidential Chapter who provided gifts

Manatee High - Secretarial Chapter who prepared registration materials

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

During the Business meeting **Pine Crest** was elected as Presidential Chapter while **Spruce Creek** was elected for the Vice Presidential Chapter. Pat Zalo announced that the National Youth Science Camp is now awarded through SSEF and she encouraged high school students to compete as seniors.

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 juniors who competed at FJAS can apply for nomination where they will pay their own expenses. It is an awesome experience. This past year two students attended AJAS/AAAS in San Diego. During the Business meeting **Nathaniel Braffman** and **Samantha Taylor** shared their experiences at AJAS and they 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 **September 1st**. These applications are submitted via email to expedite forwarding the applications to the judges who select the scholarship winner and approve 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 this membership each year 1 high school boy and 1 high school girl.

Additional Special Awards from the **American Chemical Society** and **LifeStar Foundation** may be given to students who competed at FJAS. These awards will come from the FAS office and will be listed in the Fall newsletter.

Winners at the 2010 Florida Junior Academy of Science Competition

J1- Junior Biological

- 1st Luke Brunner of Stone
- 2nd Faris Wasim of Oak Hall
- 3rd Collen Kane of Stone
- 4th Katherine Zimmerman of Braden River

J2 - Junior Environmental

- 1st Jerry Collins of Stone
- 2nd Anisa Khan of Stone
- 3rd Hannah Korah of Oak Hall
- 4th Nicole Ciar of Stone

J3 - Junior Physical

- 1st Christopher Harcourt of Stone
- 2nd Austin Sigman of Stone
- 3rd Jason Clark of American Heritage
- 4th Taylor Carter of Stone

S1 - Senior Biological

- 1st Naimonu James of Pine Crest
- 2nd Michael Deng of American Heritage
- 3rd Deepak Sathyanaran of Spruce Creek
- 4th Miguel Paredes of American Heritage

S2 - Senior Environmental

- 1st Anna Joykutty of American Heritage
- 2nd Apurv Suman of Oak Hall
- 3rd Rithi Chandy of Deerfield Beach
- 4th Rishi Neeranjun of American Heritage

S3 - Senior Behavioral/Literary

- 1st Shelby Raye of Manatee
- 2nd Sara Garner of Pine Crest
- 3rd Joshua Ingram of American Heritage
- 4th Victoria Coraci of American Heritage

S4 - Senior Medical

- 1st Samantha Prabakaran of Fort Myers
- 2nd Muna Oli of Eastside
- 3rd Tejal Jamidar of Spruce Creek

4th Sydney Resnik of Pine Crest

S5 - Senior Physical

1st Logan Stone of Pine Crest

2nd Christopher Lam of American Heritage

3rd Samantha Bishamber of American Heritage

4th Kevin Perez-Zahr of American Heritage

Senior Awards were presented to:

FJAS scholarship to **Tejal Jamidar**

AAAS membership to **Naimonu James**

Special Awards for Outstanding Presentations

were awarded to:

Ivanna Rocha of Stone

Maheer Saleem of American Heritage

Samantha Taylor of Pine Crest

Peyton Trautman of Crystal Lake

Jesse Zhou of American Heritage

Special Recognition

Many FJAS competitors stood when asked if they would be competing at the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida (SSEF) in early April. We hope that everyone was able to learn something from the FJAS experience that will help at SSEF. Seven students also were congratulated for being selected to compete at the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair in San Jose, California in May. For the past thirteen 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 fourteen years.

Judges Comments

Generally the judges were very impressed with the students and their research at FJAS but two comments gleaned from the judging room were:

- Concern of plagiarism of a website in the paper which was not listed as a reference
- No statistical analysis of data in the paper nor mentioned in the presentation

**We hope to see you at
Florida Institute of Technology
in Melbourne
in March 2011**