

Florida Junior Academy of Science

A Division of the Florida Academy of Sciences

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2012 FJAS Annual Meeting

One hundred sixty-six FJAS members submitted research papers to the preliminary competition. The team of judges selected 79 papers for the March 17th competition. Seventy-two students presented their research at the University of South Florida. The state competition could not have been possible without the assistance of:

David Karlen for local arrangements

University of South Florida for opening their facilities to FJAS

David Karlen - FAS President

Judges from Florida Academy of Sciences and USF and South University for their time and expertise

Spruce Creek - Presidential Chapter who provided snacks, gifts and assisted with awards

Pine Crest - Vice Presidential Chapter who provided drinks

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 **American Heritage** was elected as Presidential Chapter while **Spruce Creek** was elected for the Vice Presidential Chapter.

We hope to see you in March 2013 at the University of Florida

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 four students attended AJAS/AAAS in Vancouver. During the Business meeting **Luizetta Navrazhnykh**, **Jared Kaplan** and **Aashish Lalani** shared their experiences at AJAS and they agreed it was a wonderful experience. Ena Kadribasic also presented at AJAS but was unable to attend FJAS. 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.

In addition, seniors can apply for an FJAS scholarship if competing their senior year and attending a college or university in Florida. The goal is to have FJAS members to become members of the Florida Academy of Sciences and present at the FAS annual conference held at the same weekend as FJAS. This year **Kelly Gray** of Union County and **Jared Kaplan** of Pine Crest won the scholarships.

Congratulations to the winners at the 2012 Florida Junior Academy of Science Competition

Middle School Biological -Session 1

- 1st River Grace of West Shore
- 2nd Carl Ravina of Stone
- 3rd Nilay Neeranjun of American Heritage
- 4th Renaldo Seecharan of Stone

Middle School Biological - Session 2

- 1st Nicole Odzer of Highland Oaks
- 2nd Ceili Masterson of Stone
- 3rd Nithya Kasarla of American Heritage
- 4th Sneha Chaturvedi of American Heritage

Middle School Physical

- 1st Caroline Nolan of Stuart
- 2nd Urvesh Ashar of Stone
- 3rd Mamoon Syed of Stone
- 4th Anna Zimmerman of Braden River

High School Biological

- 1st Aashish Lalani of Spruce Creek
- 2nd Miguel Paredes of American Heritage
- 3rd Adam Pissaris of Pine Crest
- 4th Timothy Baker of Pine Crest

High School Environmental

- 1st Jamie Odzer of Dr Michael Krop
- 2nd Jackie Mogensen of Sarasota
- 3rd Shelby Hinds of Sarasota
- 4th Faizah Shareef of Lincoln Park

High School Medical

- 1st Rohan Batra of American Heritage
- 2nd Jared Kaplan of Pine Crest
- 3rd Rumya Raghavan of Spruce Creek
- 4th Sam Nemiroff of Pine Crest

High School Physical

- 1st Michael Troubeev of Southeast
- 2nd Camille Houle of Pine Crest
- 3rd Pratheek Nagaraj of Marjorie S Douglas
- 4th Jason Clark of American Heritage

High School Literary

- 1st Amy Lee of Archimedean
- 2nd Ricardo Sosa of Archimedean
- 3rd Theano Gerogoulakis of Archimedean
- 4th Luizetta Navrazhnykh of FAU High

Special Awards for Outstanding Presentations

were awarded to:

- Scott Draper of Stone
- Mayuri Viswanathan of American Heritage
- Kelly Gray of Union County

FJAS Members win at SSEF

Twenty-five FJAS speakers also competed at the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida held in Lakeland April 3-5, 1012. Of these 25, 19 placed with 5 First place awards! For the past sixteen years (every year that the statistics have been calculated) FJAS competitors have consistently outranked the other Florida students at SSEF by winning significantly more place awards especially First and Second places.

Congratulations goes the First place winners:

- Pratheek Nagaraj of Marjorie S. Douglas
- Nicole Odzer of Highland Oaks
- Miguel Paredes of American Heritage
- Kristina Thoren of American Heritage
- Mayuri Viswanathan of American Heritage

and Second place winners:

- Scott Draper of Stone
- Jared Kaplan of Pine Crest
- Ceili Masterson of Stone
- Jamie Odzer of Dr Michael J Krop
- Renaldo Seecharan of Stone
- Courtney Smith of Stone

Congratulations to all who competed at SSEF and to those competing at ISEF in Pittsburgh!