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, 2012. 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!