



Florida Junior Academy of Science

A Division of the Florida Academy of Sciences

Volume 31, No. 3

Spring 2013

2013 FJAS Annual Meeting

One hundred fifty-six FJAS members submitted research papers to the preliminary competition. The team of judges selected 90 papers for the March 9th competition. Seventy-three students presented their research at the Barry University. The state competition could not have been possible without the assistance of:

Jeremy Montague and **Sanjay Sesodia** of Barry University for local arrangements

Barry University for opening their facilities to FJAS and providing moderators

Sanjay Sesodia - FAS President

Judges from Florida Academy of Sciences, Barry and Nova Universities for their time and expertise

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

Spruce Creek - Vice Presidential Chapter who were unable to attend but sent a donation

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. No chapter was willing to take on role of Vice Presidential Chapter.

Special Awards

FJAS offers some very special awards. Students who compete at FJAS as high school 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 five students attended AJAS/AAAS in Boston. During the Business meeting **Miguel Paredes** shared his experiences at AJAS. Rumya Raghavan had received the scholarship for AJAS but was unable to attend FJAS. I know of no other place where high school students can interact with scientists and one of the best opportunities is the breakfast that the students have with 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 on the FAS board 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 become members of the Florida Academy of Sciences

and present at the FAS annual conference held on the same weekend as FJAS. This year **Hakeem Rhodes** of Sarasota was awarded a scholarship.

Congratulations to the winners at the 2013 Florida Junior Academy of Science Competition

Middle School Biological

- 1st River Grace of West Shore
- 2nd Nithya Kasarla of American Heritage
- 3rd Caroline Nolan of Stuart
- 4th Anthony Cheung of Stone

Middle School Environmental

- 1st Cavan Masterson of Stone
- 2nd Jonathan Mirchandani of American Heritage
- 3rd Kyle Ferguson of Stone
- 4th Brianna Youhanna of Stone

Middle School Medical

- 1st Nilay Neeranjun of American Heritage
- 2nd Sebastien Nicolas of Stone
- 3rd Suganth Kannan of American Heritage
- 4th Giao Huynh of Stone

Middle School Physical

- 1st Urvesh Ashar of Stone
- 2nd Anna Zimmerman of Braden River
- 3rd Conner Bolick of Stone
- 4th Deven Shastri of Stone

High School Behavioral

- 1st Miguel Paredes of American Heritage
- 2nd Laura Herman of Pine Crest

High School Biological

- 1st Anastasia Hediger of Pine Crest
- 2nd Allison Belette of Pine Crest
- 3rd Ajay Singh of Pine Crest
- 4th Niki Wadwha of Pine Crest

High School Environmental

- 1st Bo You of American Heritage
- 2nd Jamie Odzer of Dr Michael Krop
- 3rd Preksha Bhagchandani of Pine Crest
- 4th Kristina Thoren of American Heritage

High School Literary

- 1st Olivia Sacks of Dr Michael Krop
- 2nd Caela Gomes of Archimedean

High School Medical

- 1st Alexander Forsyth of Episcopal
- 2nd Angelica Gousse of American Heritage
- 3rd Harshath Gupta of American Heritage
- 4th Ross Piper of Dr Michael Krop

High School Physical

- 1st Casey McManus of Sarasota
- 2nd Joseph May of Pine Crest
- 3rd Sameer Kailasa of American Heritage
- 4th Hakeem Rhodes of Sarasota

Special Awards for Outstanding Presentations

were awarded to:

Robert Bacchus, Jr. of Lincoln Park
Alexandria Brantley of Sarasota
Sophia Christodoulou-Rubalcava of Archimedean
Shane Cosme of Stone
Tommy Fields of Stone
Zain Kabeer of Oak Hall
Natalie Olson of Sarasota
Alana Steinberg of Pine Crest
Elliot Whitney of Stone

We hope to see you at the 2014 competition. The plans to have the competition at Indian River State College in Fort Pierce have not been finalized. More information will be available in the Fall newsletter.