

2025 Special Awards

DuPont Excellence in Teaching Award

The DuPont Excellence in Teaching Award salutes teachers for many years of dedication and service to the Delaware Valley Science Fairs and support of STEM education in their communities. The winning teachers receive \$500, a plaque, and an all-expenses paid trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair.

Bob Hachtmann from Bangor Area School District in Lehigh County

Mark Hayden from Central Bucks East High School in Bucks County

AFCEA - Philadelphia Chapter

is awarding these prizes to the best high school science research projects related to communications, intelligence or information systems fields. Each student will receive a formal certificate, a cash prize and a one year membership to AFCEA.

1st Place \$200 - Derek Yao

2nd Place \$150 - Atharv Uddi

3rd Place \$100 - Akshant Kaveti

Air Products Young Innovator Award

is presented to students that demonstrate innovation in computer science and engineering. Each student will receive a cash prize and a certificate.

1st Place \$500 - Henry Cantor

2nd Place \$400 - Xinyu Yu

3rd Place \$300 - Kavya Gounder

American Association for Cancer Research Award

is offered to student projects that align with their mission to prevent and cure cancer through research, education, communication and collaboration. Each winner received a cash prize, a ribbon, a certificate, Student Membership in AACR, and some AACR swag.

1st Place \$250 - Prithvi Krish

2nd Place \$150 - Grace John

3rd Place \$100 - Ryan Wang

American Chemical Society - Delaware Section

DE-ACS is awarding these prizes to projects that align with their mission to advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people.

HS 1st Place \$100 - Acim Savich

MS 1st Place \$100 - Kunal Khandhar

HS 2nd Place \$50 - Cindy Jiang

MS 2nd Place \$50 - Camille Leggett

HS 3rd Place \$25 - Shreena Desai

MS 3rd Place \$25 - Carson Victoria

American Entomological Society - Calvert Award

is awarding these prizes to students showing interest and promise in the study of insects, preferably relating to local species. All winners receive a certificate, monetary award, a one year membership in AES which includes a subscription to *Entomological News*, and an invitation to an AES meeting in the spring.

1st Place \$150 - Victoria Chase

2nd Place \$100 - Isabella Sadsad

3rd Place \$50 - Braeden Wilkinson

American Psychological Association

is pleased to award outstanding research projects in psychological science. Winners receive a certificate of achievement and a complimentary one-year student affiliate membership in APA.

Rhea Dudhwala, Ayon Hajra, Gavin Mack and Aarya Pradhan

American Society for Microbiology - Eastern PA

is honoring outstanding projects related to the field of microbiology. They also recognize the teacher of our Grand Prize winner for encouraging the student's research.

Grand prize \$200 Amazon gift card and certificate - Maya Abdelaal

Teacher - John Wnek from Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Sciences in Stafford Township, NJ

Honorable Mention certificate - Vanessa Genda

Honorable Mention certificate - Jiya Singh

American Society of Civil Engineers - Philadelphia Section

presents these civil engineering awards to projects with evidence of technical competence that promote the advancement of the profession.

1st Place - \$150, plaque, and invitation to the Spring Social

HS – Adelina Cutrona

MS – Emma Frank

2nd Place - \$100 and plaque

HS – Selena Zhang

MS – Kaito Kiuchi

American Society of Highway Engineers - Delaware Valley Section

is awarding these prizes to outstanding highway-related projects that show intuitiveness and ingenuity as they relate to the highway industry.

1st Place \$350, framed certificate and invitation to their spring meeting - Aria Patel

2nd Place \$150 and certificate - Ella Denicore

American Society of Naval Engineers - Delaware Valley Section

is proud to award prizes to projects that span virtually all fields of science and engineering, as applied to Navy vessels and aircraft. Each winner receives \$500 and a certificate.

Harrison James and Bhavi Patel

American Statistical Association - Philadelphia Chapter

is awarding a \$150 prize and certificate to science fair projects demonstrating the best use of statistics.

Grades 11 & 12 – Treya Ghosh

Grades 9 & 10 – Niranjana Sendil Kumar

Middle School – Adi Iyer

Bill Rissinger Award for Earth & Space Sciences

This award honors a man that was an outstanding educator and friend. He was a middle school science teacher for almost forty years and the director of the Bucks County Science Fair. He was part of the original DVSF leadership team working with Henry Disston, the first Director of Mentorship and a medals judge for many years. He was kind, honest and reflective not only with his young science research students, but also with his colleagues and new teachers. He was a self-proclaimed "science fair junkie" and deeply believed in the value of scientific research. He showed a genuine interest in the students' work and was a guiding force to help them realize that the deepest learning often came from our mistakes. He had such a broad range of knowledge and an endless Rolodex of contacts to help others achieve their goals. He was everyone's favorite teacher and inspired many to go into the fields of education and STEM. The love and commitment he gave to his students and his job deserve

respect and admiration and DVSF is proud to honor him with this Earth and Space Science Award. The winner receives \$200 and a certificate.

Tyler Steinbrunn from Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Sciences in Stafford Township, NJ

Broadcom Coding with Commitment Award

is uniquely intended to reward a student's passion for improving the community and for attempting to apply basic coding or rudimentary computational thinking to solve a problem the student cares about. The winner receives a certificate, \$250 and a Raspberry Pi Pico kit.

Max Yang from Springhouse Middle School

Chromatography Forum of Delaware Valley

is honored to recognize the accomplishments of talented young men and women whose research projects utilized principles and techniques of chromatography and separation sciences. Each winner will receive \$100, a certificate and an invitation to present their work at the forum's annual symposium.

Cindy Jiang, Diya Mahesh, Anna Ries, Soumil Sharma and Cindy Wang

Community College of Philadelphia

The CCP Junior STEM Academy STEAM Summer Award is presented to middle school students who show potential for scientific inquiry. Students will choose from a variety of STEAM-themed camps including Performing Arts, 3D Printing, Robotic Engineering, Coding, and Drones. This year, the Junior STEM Academy program will culminate in a student produced musical production of *Aladdin Jr. The Musical*. This award covers the cost of tuition and field trips, including a visit to NYC to see a Broadway play, and must be used the same summer as the receipt of the award. Please see the Award Letter for more details.

Sanaa Boggs from Ad Prima Charter School

Tavion Pitt from Ad Prima Charter School

Constellation Energy Award

is given to outstanding projects that align with the company's mission to promote the use of clean energy and reduce our carbon footprint. Each winner will receive \$100 along with their certificate.

Alexander Abramov, Samahn Lolley, Aria Patel, Kelvin Zhang and the team of Arnav Rathi and Adityakesari Vittalkesari

Delaware Audubon Society - Red Knot Award of Excellence

is awarding the Red Knot Award of Excellence to students whose projects align with their mission of promoting species and habitat conservation, particularly those showing interest and promise in the study of birds.

All winners receive a monetary award, certificate, and one year membership in the Delaware Audubon Society.

1st Place \$100 - Nishad Karthik

2nd Place \$75 - Tyler Steinbrunn

3rd Place \$50 - Ayaan Naik

Department of Defense (DoD) STEM Leadership Prize

is presented to a middle school project that excels in STEM knowledge and technical skills, demonstrates problem-solving skills and determination to overcome challenges throughout their research project, and exemplifies leadership qualities through excellent communication skills and creative thinking. The winner will receive \$100.

Kunal Khandhar from William Allen Middle School

Engineers' Club of Philadelphia

honors future leaders in the engineering field to ensure excellence in engineering continues for generations to come. Each winner will receive \$200 and a personalized plaque.

Grades 11-12 – Aryan Kapoor

Grades 9-10 – Zheyu Zhang

Middle School – Omuwa Izah

Henry Disston Director's Award

This award goes to a student that has competed in DVSF all through middle school and high school, not just in hopes of earning top awards, but because of a desire to learn and explore STEM concepts. We believe that perseverance and commitment to STEM research should be acknowledged. This year's \$500 and trophy for the Henry Disston Director's Award goes to

Grace Yacobe from The Academy of Notre Dame

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - Philadelphia Section

is pleased to present these awards for excellence and outstanding effort in the development and construction of projects in the IEEE fields of interest.

1st Place \$300 and plaque – Nithilan Rengapragash

2nd Place \$200 and plaque – Aryan Kapoor

3rd Place \$100 and plaque - Amogh Biradar

Honorable Mention \$50 and certificate - Tushar Janarthanam Ramesh Babu and RoshikNagaSai Patibandla

John C. Sargent Jr. Memorial Award

This award honors the memory of John C. Sargent Jr. by recognizing an outstanding science research project in aerospace, GPS, or some other type of communication. The student will be receiving \$500 and a certificate.

Xinyu Yu from The Hill School in Montgomery County

Johnson & Johnson Award for Biotechnology or Pharmaceutical Science

recognizes excellence in biotechnology or pharmaceutical science research with several awards.

1st Place \$500 – Mags Kelleher

2nd Place \$300 – Ryan Wang

3rd Place \$200 – Aaditya Kambli

Honorable Mention \$100 - Sandro Boujaoude, Brandon Cai, Amogh Dattatri, Kunal Khandhar and Shreejith Krishnamoorthy

The Lemelson Foundation partnered with Society for Science

is proud to award The Lemelson Early Inventor Prize to the top inventor, for exemplifying the ideals of inventive thinking by addressing a challenge seen in the community and creating a solution that will improve the lives of others. The winner receives \$100 and a certificate.

Omuwa Izah from The Jersey Shore Fair

Merck Science Achievement Award

honors excellent projects relating to drug discovery and human health. Each winner will receive \$100 and a certificate.

Abhay Chathuruthy, Parv Chikani, Samantha Christian, Benjamin Crino, Darsh Gajera, Grace John, Kunal Khandhar, Vincent Li, Atchuthram Suresh and Leah Yosmanovich-Islam

Mid-Atlantic Society of Toxicology Award

recognizes the best science research project with a strong toxicology focus. The winners will receive an Amazon gift card and a certificate. The Most Exceptional Toxicology Related Poster will also be invited to present their work at the MASOT Regional Fall Meeting.

Most Exceptional Toxicology Related Poster \$150 – Vedika Deshpande

Most Outstanding Toxicology Related Poster \$100 – Miraan Jhaveri

Outstanding Toxicology Related Poster \$50 – Violet Fischer

Mixit - Kohlhaas Award

This award is in memory of two extraordinary men that supported the science fair for many years. Jack Mixit was one of the DVSF directors and worked at the Franklin Institute during the 1960s and 70s when the science fairs were held there. Donald Kohlhaas has been a long supporter of the fair and established this award to honor his friend Jack. Mr. Kohlhaas passed away in August 2021 and his family has graciously offered to continue sponsoring this award. DVSF is proud to honor these two men who were creative, loved to demonstrate science and strongly believed in the benefits of science fairs. Each winner will receive \$100 and a certificate.

Veda Gandhi, Harrison James, Simran Kalia, Camille Leggett, Jason Ma, Arya Pradhan, Zeke Reichley and Neve Schwarz

New Jersey Water Environment Association

honors science research that addresses water pollution and/or are water resource projects.

The winner must reside in NJ and will receive an invitation to the NJWEA annual conference where the student will be presented with \$500 and a plaque.

Aarhi Gunasekaran from The Jersey Shore Fair

Office of Naval Research Naval Science Award

The United States Navy and Marine Corps take pleasure in recognizing projects that demonstrate student learning about the chosen subject and scientific process, as well as the ability to discuss the work intelligently. High school students will receive \$50, a medallion and a certificate. Middle school students will receive a medallion and certificate.

High School - Brandon Cai, Matthew Cherry, Isabella Jin, Aryan Kapoor, Benjamin Martin, Nidhi Mandrekar, Lakshay Naresh, Rohit Rajagopalan and Atharv Uddi

Middle School - David Berk, Daniel Daly, Matteo Del Tufo, Rayn Jaffer, Jocelyn Jiang, Bert Lin, Paige Peterson, Rishi Marri, Sulan Shi and Zora Lewis

Parenteral Drug Association - Delaware Valley Chapter

awards excellent research relating to studies with an impact on human health. Each student receives \$500 and a certificate.

Tamar Ben-Anat, Rowan Chetty, Sean Jeon, Shreejith Krishnamoorthy, Julia Mason, Ananya Relia, Roma Reddy, Anushka Saha, Navya Shah, and Chloe Wnek

Pennsylvania Council of Professional Geologists Grover H. Emrich Memorial Award

recognizes an exemplary project that uses the principles of applied geology (earth science) to research issues relevant to human activity where geological factors play a role. Potential topics include environmental contaminants, water supply impacts, groundwater assessment, climate change, mineral exploration, mining, petroleum exploration and engineering geology for disaster management of landslides, floods, earthquakes, etc. The winner receives \$500 and a certificate.

Christian Miller from Bayard Rustin High School in Chester County

Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers - Valley Forge Chapter

proudly recognizes projects from each grade level that exhibit the promise of future engineering excellence.

1st Place \$50 and certificate – Henry Cantor, Chase Irwin, Rayn Jaffer, Mags Kelleher and Ellia Sales

2nd Place \$25 and certificate - Zahan Dotiwala, Cameron Forsyth, Aria Patel, Jude Snyder and Xinyu Yu

Philadelphia Society for Coatings Technology

awards projects that foster a better understanding of the technology required in the manufacture of paints and coatings, and the development of more environmentally safe products. Winners receive a cash prize and certificate.

1st Place \$500 - Peter Moon

2nd Place \$350 - Asha Chakrabarti

3rd Place \$250 – Ria Shankar

Power of Collaborative Teamwork from Marilyn Hosang

As a long time judge, Ms. Hosang recognizes that one of our most powerful research tools is the ability to collaborate. The DVSF teams need to be able to communicate clearly with each other, and find a way to distribute the workload fairly. This prize honors the Power of Collaborative Teamwork by awarding middle school teams \$250 Amazon gift cards and a certificate of achievement.

Reanne Artezuela and Zoey Polhemus

John Jellick and Matthew Pilcer

Regeneron Biomedical Science Award

recognizes an exceptional student scientist who not only demonstrates an impressive command of biomedical science and research, but also embodies Regeneron's core values and behaviors known as The Regeneron Way. The winner receives \$375 and a certificate.

Sophia Fehrenbach from Central Bucks West High School in Bucks County

Roy F. Weston Memorial Award for Environmental Sciences

honors the ability and creativity of student research in environmental sciences. The winner will receive \$500 and a certificate.

Noelle Pinto from The Academy of Notre Dame

Saint-Gobain NA

is proud to recognize student research that has a positive impact on our society and planet.

The Saint-Gobain Foundation Junior Sustainability Award is for four middle school students whose projects demonstrate sustainability, recycled material use, carbon reduction, and circular economy solutions. Each winner receives \$200 and a certificate.

Dallas Battestelli, Siri Matta, Riddik Sri Satya Neetipalli and Max Yang

The Saint-Gobain Foundation Sustainability Award is given to eight high school student researchers that demonstrate sustainability, recycled material use, carbon reduction, and circular economy solutions. Two winners at each grade level will receive \$400 and a certificate.

12th Grade - Dante Kanterezhi-Gatto and Priya Mancheril

11th Grade - Alan Luu and Alexander Wang

10th Grade - Lily Norman and Andy Zhang

9th Grade - Avi Abrol and Aarika Sharma

The Saint-Gobain Innovation @Malvern Prize is awarded to the project in the fair that best encompasses Saint-Gobain's mission of making the world a better home. The project selected shows how the solution has a positive impact on everyone's life and provides well-being, quality of life and performance, while caring for the planet. This winner receives \$1000 and a trophy.

Maya Abdelaal from Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Sciences in Stafford Township, NJ

Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry - Hudson Delaware Chapter

honors high school projects that promote the development of principles and practices for the protection, enhancement and management of sustainable environmental quality and ecosystem integrity. Each student will receive \$100 and a certificate.

Julian Villafane and Dehwen Youlo

Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers - Philadelphia Section

honors student research that relate to lubrication or corrosion prevention. Each student will receive \$100 and a certificate.

Sanaa Boggs, Adi Iyer, Haasini Matta, Taruni Pasumarthi and Akhil Velampalli

Society of Women Engineers - Philadelphia

is proud to recognize outstanding science projects which typify engineering principles and methods.

Additionally, a \$1000 Dorothy Hoffman Award will be awarded to Mags Kelleher at the SWE Philadelphia's year-end celebration.

1st Place with \$100 - Mags Kelleher, Kavya Gounder, Joyce Li, Ariana Zavialov and Rajika Basu

2nd Place with \$50 - Ella Denicore, Sonia Leo, Melani Rosas Solano, Gayathri Nair and Omuwa Izah

3rd Place with \$25 - Cameron Forsyth and Nidhi Mandrekar

4th Place with \$25 - Xinyu Yu

Honorable Mention - Anabelle Ahteck, Sophia Bui, Lindsay Ewasko, Lillian Hulstein, Prisha Parmar, Aria Patel, Bhavi Patel, Skye Simms, Pujiangyue Weng and Selena Zhang

Thermo Fisher Scientific - Philadelphia Area Community Action Council

The Advancing Equity Through Innovation Award is presented by the Thermo Fisher Scientific Philadelphia Area Community Action Council. They recognize projects that promote an equitable society that is healthier, cleaner, or safer for all. Each student will receive \$300 and a certificate.

Rajika Basu, Henry Cantor, Mags Kelleher, Angelo Markham and Lucas Yang

US Air Force

is proud to pay tribute to young high achievers that will strengthen the nation's STEM future through their ideas and imaginations. Each student will receive a preliminary certificate this evening and an award package will be sent to them after the fair.

Maximillian Kopp, Harivighnesh Nagaraj, Srinikkesh Senthilkumar and Caleb Sigelman

US Stockholm Junior Water Prize

US-SJWP and the Water Environment Federation honor science research that is aimed at enhancing the quality of life through improvement of water quality, water resource management, or water and wastewater treatment.

The winner receives a certificate, an invitation to compete in their state's US Stockholm Junior Water competition and a one-year student membership in the Water Environment Federation.

Maya Abdelaal, Zachary Ciappa, Aarthi Gunasekaran, Isabella Morgan, Cleatus Oakes, Ethan Ryu, Aaditri Suresh and Emma Valish

West Pharmaceutical Services

is proud to recognize science projects that demonstrate creativity and scientific thought in the areas of research and innovation. Each HS and MS individual project winner will receive \$250. Each HS and MS Team member will receive \$350.

Biochemistry Awards: Dia Srivastava and Sophia Fehrenbach

Chemistry Awards: Aariz Khan and Asha Chakrabarti

Engineering Awards: William Cobb and Pujiangyue Weng

Medicine and Health Awards: Anagha Kuricheti and Swarna Suresh

Zoology Award: Gavin Curtis

HS Team Award: Tushar Janarthanan Ramesh Babu and RoshikNagaSai Patibandla

MS Team Award: Shreyaan Kovur, Tharun Sudhakar and Jaswanth Velpula

WL Gore and Associates

sponsors three awards. Each honors students with \$100 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place. The Extreme Engineering Challenge honors projects that demonstrate advanced skills in the engineering design process.

1st Place - Mags Kelleher

2nd Place - Henry Cantor

3rd Place - Atharv Uddi

The Innovation Award recognizes projects that demonstrate exceptional creativity and innovation in science research.

1st Place - Matthew Lo

2nd Place - Chris Liu

3rd Place - SreeNithya Allampally

The Material Science Research Award honors outstanding material science research projects.

1st Place - Maximillian Kopp

2nd Place - Joseph McCarty

3rd Place - Sydney Klever

Yale Science and Engineering Association

recognizes outstanding 11th grade projects in Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Physics. Each student will receive a certificate and an E-book from the Yale University Press.

Kavya Gounder, Aditya Khurana, Boyu Liu and Athena Man

***** SCHOLARSHIPS *****

Botstiber Foundation Scholarship

The Dietrich W. Botstiber Foundation Scholarships are honoring three students whose research is related to aviation and physics by offering them an \$8000 unrestricted scholarship. The winners will be awarded \$2000 per year for four years, pending maintenance of full-time status and good academic standing.

Tanner Bailey, Matthew Cherry and Benjamin Martin

Community College of Philadelphia

The Community College of Philadelphia is sponsoring four awards for their Advance College Experience (ACE) program. The award will be given to current 8th, 9th, 10th or 11th graders that show potential for science inquiry. It has an approximate value of \$350 which includes the cost of the course as well as the required textbook. This unique summer program allows high school students to enroll in courses with the potential to earn college credit. The ACE program offers a cross-section of intensive courses and includes a full semester of college-level course material taught by college faculty over five weeks in July and August. Students that earn a "C" or better will receive college credit from the Community College of Philadelphia. The scholarship must be used for either ACE 2025 or ACE 2026, and will be null and void once the student graduates from high school.

Grace Lackay, Tom Lan, Amieda Momoh and Ja'kiyah Wright

Delaware Valley University

This award is offered to select high school seniors and juniors competing in the Delaware Valley Science Fairs. The \$2000 DelVal Mission Scholarship will be awarded to juniors and seniors placing first in their categories at the Delaware Valley Science Fairs. A \$1000 DelVal Mission Scholarship will be awarded to juniors and seniors that earn second place, third place or honorable mention in the category. These scholarships are renewable for four years as long as the student remains in good academic standing, and are in addition to any academic scholarship for which a student may qualify upon admission. In order to be eligible to claim the DelVal Mission Scholarship

described above, the high school student must enroll at the Delaware Valley University as a full-time undergraduate student in the fall semester immediately following the winner's high school graduation.

In 2025, this award was offered to 128 students from the Delaware Valley Science Fairs.

Harrisburg University of Science and Technology

The Science and Technology Scholar Award is given to all high school seniors and juniors participating in the Delaware Valley Science Fairs. It will cover up to \$1500 for four (4) academic years at Harrisburg University of Science and Technology and is renewable each year. This will be in addition to any Merit Scholarship Award the student receives upon application and admission to the university. To redeem this award, the student must be granted a regular, full-time admission to HU for the Fall semester immediately following graduation from high school. Please be sure to read the award letter carefully for more details about eligibility.

In 2025, this award was offered to 320 students from the Delaware Valley Science Fairs.

***** Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge *****

Thermo Fisher Scientific continues to sponsor this national middle school competition. The Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge invites selected sixth through eighth grade students to compete in the TFJIC. Tonight, students receive a certificate with a QR code on the back of it. That will take you to the TFJIC website. **STUDENTS MUST REGISTER THEMSELVES IF THEY CHOOSE TO COMPETE.** Delaware Valley Science Fair will not "promote" students or send any paperwork to the TFJIC for you. These are the eligible students from this year's fair.

*Adan Ahmad
Rijika Basu
Monali Chavan
Anisha Cheruvu
Gavin Curtis
Radika Dudda
Vandita Gabbita
Jaxon Gazia
Diya Iyer
Khadijah Janjua
Jocelyn Jiang*

*Panash Kapoor
Kunal Khandhar
Shreyan Kovur
Camille Leggett
Naman Mandloi
Ahana Paul
Loukya Pavuluri
Taya Pitram
Ishita Rastogi
Arnay Rathi
Zeke Reichley*

*Aadhavan Rengapragash
Louis Sincavage
AvaGrace Smeland
Dia Srivastava
Nila Subramanian
Saanvi Subramanya
Tharun Sukhakar
Brynlee Turansky
Jaswanth Velpula
Adityakesari Vittalkesari
Leah Yosmanovich-Islam*

Sending a thank you note for your award is a courteous and professional thing to do.

The address for your organization should be included with your prize and certificate.

If your award or check will be mailed to you, please be patient. They will be sent by the end of May.

If you do not receive your award by early June or have any other questions,

please email our Director of Awards and Scholarships,

Ms. Mary-Rita Bonner at mrbonner@dvsf.org.