



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 26, 2023

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## STEM Scholars Competed for Nearly \$400,000 in Scholarships and Awards During State Science Day 2023

Dublin, Ohio – For 75 years, **State Science Day**, a program of **The Ohio Academy of Science**, has been the pinnacle of academic achievement for students pursuing inquiry-based scientific research and engineering design.

Drawing upon a base of nearly 5,000 students, a total of 614 students representing 187 schools from across Ohio competed for \$400,000 in sponsored awards and scholarships. The State Science Day program culminated on May 13, 2023, when 244 students were honored during a Celebration of Science, which was hosted by **The Ohio State University**. This day-long symposium styled celebration provided students with the opportunity to present their projects, tour research facilities, and interact with professional scientists and engineers. The keynote address was provided by **Dr. Tanya Berger-Wolf**, Director of the Translational Data Analytics Institute and a Professor at The Ohio State University.

Title Sponsors included the **Amgen Foundation** and the **Ohio Tuition Trust Authority – College Advantage, Ohio’s 529 College Savings Plan**. State Science Day also receives key support from the AEP Foundation, Battelle, Broadcom Foundation, CAS, Charles River, Kent State University, Kokosing, Ohio EPA – Environmental Education Fund, and Taft Law.

“State Science Day is a springboard for developing our next generation of scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, and thought leaders”, said **Michael E. Woytek**, Executive Director of The Ohio Academy of Science. Woytek added, “these students are learning how to apply STEM through inquiry and design.”

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Several Ohio Departments and Centers fund awards at **State Science Day**. **The Governor's Thomas Edison Awards** include Excellence in Student Research in Advanced Materials; Advanced or Alternative Energy; Biotechnology and Biomedical Technologies; Environmental Protection Research; and Information Science & Technology Research. Sponsors for the Governor's Awards are the **Ohio Development Services Agency (Technology Division)**, the **Ohio Environmental Education Fund** and several Edison Technology Centers.

The following schools received the **Harold C. Shaw Memorial Outstanding School Award\***:

**Athens High School**, Athens  
**Benjamin Logan High School**, Bellefontaine  
**Dayton Regional STEM School**, Dayton  
**Howland High School**, Warren  
**Mason Middle School**, Mason  
**Mentor High School**, Mentor  
**Ottawa Hills High School**, Ottawa Hills  
**Ridgewood School**, Springfield  
**Solon Middle School**, Solon  
**St. Columban**, Loveland  
**Sylvania Northview High School**, Sylvania  
**Trinity Lutheran**, Toledo

\*The Harold C. Shaw Memorial Outstanding School Award is recognized as the highest possible school and team achievement at State Science Day. The award is based on a combination of high participation and project quality.

Additionally, several key sponsors also supported students with additional awards. **The Ohio Tuition Trust Authority** recognized elementary and middle school researchers by awarding **The College Advantage 529 Plan Award** and the **Broadcom Foundation** provided the **Coding with Commitment Award**

Several students were also recognized for competing in multiple years at **State Science Day**. The following list of students received awards for this distinguished accomplishment:

**Seven Year Awardees** – Charley Clyne (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe), Julie Sebastian (Bethel HS – Tipp City), Emily Swope (Bloom Carroll – Carroll), Wyatt Vick (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe)

**Six Year Awardees** – Sadhil Mehta (Tippecanoe HS – Tipp City), Bryn Morgan (West Geauga HS – Chesterland), Marissa Shook (Ansonia HS – Ansonia), Dana Stan, New Albany HS – New Albany), Kennedy Brehm (Bloom Carroll HS – Carroll), Luca Gagliano (Athens HS – Athens)

**Five Year Awardees** – Winnie Bodin (Benjamin Logan HS – Bellefontaine), Michael Ge (Ursuline HS – Youngstown), Kara Jones (Central Christian – Kidron), Liam Hartley (Milton Union HS – West Milton), Addison Mullins (Wheelersburg HS – Wheelersburg), Allison Payton (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe)

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**Four Year Awardees** - Aditya Varma Sangu (Olentangy Shanahan MS - Powell), Aviraj Soin (Miami Valley School – Dayton), Laasya Acharya (William Mason HS – Mason), Tarun Batchu (Olentangy Liberty HS – Powell), Johan DeMessie (William Mason HS – Mason), William Kohut (Lakewood HS – Hebron), Luke Doseck (Dayton Regional STEM School – Dayton), Kaitlyn Ernst (Laurel School – Shaker Hts.), Xinrui Han (Athens HS – Athens), Jacob Rice (Arcanum HS – Arcanum), Robert Whittington (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe)

For more information, including a complete roster of participating students and sponsored awards, please visit <https://ssd.ohiosci.org/state-science-days/>

For more information about **State Science Day**, call 614-389-2182 or email [mwoytek@ohiosci.org](mailto:mwoytek@ohiosci.org).