



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Michael E. Woytek

614-389-2182

mwoytek@ohiosci.org

STEM Scholars compete for more than \$500,000 in Scholarships and Awards During **State Science Day 2024**

Dublin, Ohio – For 76 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 636 students representing 169 schools from across Ohio competed for \$500,000 in sponsored awards and scholarships. The State Science Day program will culminate on May 11, 2024, when 248 students will be honored during a **Celebration of Science**, hosted by **The Ohio State University**. This day-long symposium and celebration will provide students with the opportunity to present their projects, tour research facilities, and interact with professional scientists and engineers. A welcoming will be provided by Ohio State University, Sr. Vice Provost, **Dr. Ryan Schmiesing**. The keynote is a panel discussion led by **Angie McMurry**, Director of Programming (Ohio Academy of Science). The panel includes a field of women scientists who are also State Science Day alumni.

Title Sponsors include the **AEP Foundation**, **Amgen Foundation**, **Honda**, and the **Ohio Tuition Trust Authority – College Advantage**, **Ohio's 529 College Savings Plan**. State Science Day also receives key support from 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 Ohio’s technical workforce”, said **Michael E. Woytek**, Executive Director, The Ohio Academy of Science. Woytek added, “a great number of these students will go on to obtain related STEM degrees and certifications. Additionally, State Science Day is creating a culture of innovation by inspiring the next generation of STEM talent needed to attract and retain critical industries and businesses in Ohio.”

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Several Ohio Departments and Centers fund awards for State Science Day. **The Governor’s Thomas Edison Awards** include Excellence in Student Research in Advanced or Alternative Energy; Advanced Materials, Biotechnology and Biomedical Technologies; and Information Technology. 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 will receive the **Harold C. Shaw Memorial Outstanding School Award***:

Archbishop Alter HS, Dayton
Archbishop Carroll HS, Dayton
Bloom Carroll HS, Carroll
Cincinnati Classical Academy, Cincinnati
Mentor High School, Mentor
Mother Teresa Catholic ES, Liberty Township
St. Ambrose, Medina
St. Columban, Loveland
Sylvania Northview HS, Sylvania
The University School, Hunting Valley
Upper Arlington HS, Upper Arlington
William Mason HS, Mason

*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 will be recognized for competing in multiple years at **State Science Day**. The following list of students receiving awards for this distinguished accomplishment:

Eight Year Awardees – Charley Clyne (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe), and Wyatt Vick (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe)

Seven Year Awardees – Sadhil Mehta (Tippecanoe HS – Tipp City), and Dana Stan, (New Albany HS – New Albany)

Six Year Awardees – Winnie Bodin (Benjamin Logan HS – Bellefontaine), Michael Ge (Ursuline HS – Youngstown), Kara Jones (Central Christian – Kidron), Addison Mullins (Wheelersburg HS – Wheelersburg), Allison Payton (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe)

Five Year Awardees - Laaysa Acharya (William Mason HS – Mason), Tarun Batchu (Olentangy Liberty HS – Powell), Xinrui Han (Athens HS – Athens), William Kohut (Lakewood HS – Hebron), Aviraj Soin (Miami Valley School – Dayton), Robert Whittingham (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe)

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Four Year Awardees – Aubrey Ernst (Tippecanoe Middle School – Tipp City), Audrey Jackson (Tippecanoe Middle School – Tipp City), Josie Jennings (Global Impact STEM Academy – Springfield), Vishwum Kapadia (University School – Hunting Valley), Haasini Mendu (William Mason HS – Mason), Elijah Moore (Trinity Lutheran – Toledo), Adharsh Narendrakumar (St. Ignatius HS – Cleveland), Molly Prochaska (Zane Trace HS – Chillicothe), Amaan Siddiqi (Lake Ridge Academy – North Ridgeville), Dhilen Soin (The Miami Valley School – Dayton), Joseph Wright (Dayton Regional STEM School – Dayton)

For more information, including a complete roster of participating students and sponsored awards, please visit <https://ssd.ohiosci.org/2024-state-science-day-celebration/>

All State Science Day projects can be viewed at <https://projectboard.world/oas/home>

For more information about **State Science Day**, call 614-389-2182 or email mwoytek@ohiosci.org