


Lowcountry Regional Science and Engineering Fair
2008 Annual Report
General Information

The 28th annual Lowcountry Regional Science and Engineering Fair was held March 31, 2008 at The College Center at the Complex for Economic Development, Trident Technical College, North Charleston, SC. The Lowcountry Science Fair is open to students in grades 5-12 in Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, and Georgetown counties. There were 170 students presenting 141 projects, representing three high schools, fifteen elementary/middle schools, and two home school associations. The student demographics are shown in Tables 1 and 2. At the 2007 Lowcountry Science Fair, 154 students presenting 141 projects, representing three high schools and twelve elementary/middle schools.

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| Caucasian | 139 |
| African-American | 18 |
| Asian | 3 |
| Hispanic | 2 |
| Indian | 1 |
| Native American | 1 |
| Persian | 1 |
| Other | 1 |
| Not Provided | 4 |
| TOTAL STUDENTS | 170 |

Table 1 - Ethnicity of Students

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|-----------------------|------------|
| Male | 94 |
| Female | 76 |
| TOTAL STUDENTS | 170 |

Table 2 - Gender of Students

The Lowcountry Science Fair is an affiliate of the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) and abides by their rules and regulations. This year, the projects were divided into three divisions: Junior 1 for fifth and sixth grades, Junior 2 for seventh and eighth graders, and Senior for high school students. Each project was then placed into one of the following categories, Behavioral and Social Sciences, Biological Sciences (includes botany, microbiology, and zoology), Chemistry and Biochemistry, Engineering, Geology and Environmental Science (includes earth and environmental science), Mathematics and Computer Science, Medicine and Health, Physics and Astronomy (includes physics and space science), and Team Projects. All categories were represented with projects. First, second and third place awards were given in each category for Senior and Junior Divisions (if applicable) as well as numerous special awards. There were approximately 60 judges from various organizations, College of Charleston, MUSC, The Citadel, Charleston Southern University, and local businesses.

Awards Ceremony and Overall Winners

The Awards Ceremony was held Friday, April 4, 2008 at the College of Charleston's Physicians Auditorium. Approximately 87 students received awards.

Overall first, second and third place winners in each division were awarded trophies and \$50, \$35 and \$25 cash respectively. The teachers of the first place overall winners in each division were awarded a \$50 BarnesandNoble.com gift card. The first and second place overall winners in the senior division, as well as the teacher of the first place winner, were provided an all-expenses paid trip to the ISEF in Atlanta, GA.

The Junior 1 Division first place winner was Jacob Altizer, a sixth grade student from First Baptist Church School Mt. Pleasant. His project in the Behavioral and Social Sciences category was titled "Confusing Colors: Does ink color effect the way they read the word?." His teacher was Ms. Beth Wojcik.

The Junior 2 Division first place winner was Patrick Hampton, a seventh grade student from First Baptist Church School Charleston. His project in the Geology and Environmental Science category was titled "Windy Situations." His teacher was Ms. Mary Jacob McKinley.

The Senior Division first place winner was Julia Killingsworth, with her project in the Chemistry and Biochemistry category, "The Effect of Fli1 Gene Expression Levels on Induced Nitric Oxide Synthase in Lupus." The Senior Division second place winner was Yupeng Liu with her project in the Geology and Environmental Science category, entitled "Effects of Repeated Oxytetracycline Exposure on Phytoplankton Growth and Toxin Production." Julia and Yupeng were seniors at Academic Magnet High School and students of Mrs. Laura Eicher and Mr. Murray Eicher, respectively.

Sponsors

Corporate sponsors of the LSF include the College of Charleston School of Sciences and Mathematics and Lowcountry Hall of Science and Math, Patriots Point Foundation Cold War Submarine Memorial Fund, Charleston County Project Impact, and Image Network of Charleston.

Parent sponsors of the LSF include Mr. William Hardesty and Mr. Lawrence H. Moser.