Science Fair Awards Program.

USMA Science Fair Chair

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Annual

Funded by USMA member dues

- Annual "membership" fees required for USMA to participate
- No monetary awards to students



Awards started 1982 (local and national)

- Current Award Period: 2021/2022 school year
- 60 years of awards!





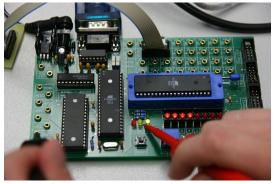
Administered by national organization

















USMA Science Fair Awards Program Program

Online reporting now available

Award results typically provided by:

- Schools
- Student Winners
- Social Media

Not all Science Fairs report back to USMA









2021/2022 Season Results = 152 Awards

- 138 awards submitted digital report (online)
- 10 awards report by email
- 4 awards report by students thanking USMA for award

Typical Science Fair Season

Most years we hear from 25 % to 30 % of fairs to which USMA sent awards

COVID Pandemic Effect

- Much lower participation last year
- Under 100 Science Fair Award reports were received

Current Season

Predominately electronically (online submission) and some by email



Observations



Stand Out States

- Largest number of metric awards: Florida, Colorado, Maryland, North Dakota, and South Dakota
- California Report many awards, but still not in proportion to state population
- North Dakota Individual students send thank you notes; even when the fair itself did not send a Science Fair Award report of students

Ideas?

- Looking for more ways to create more interest in Science Fair Award Program
- Increase USMA members and metric advocates involved in this ongoing project!



Personal Experience as Science Fair Judge



- Local Science Fairs may provide any additional awards as they see fit
- **1985 to 2008**: I judged Illinois Junior Academy of Science (Champaign, IL) + Chicago Board of Education fairs
- \$50.00 savings bond awards to (2) high school students and (2) middle school students doing the best job of using SI units. Also distributed pens, refrigerator magnets, and 20 cm rulers when speaking with students and judging exhibits
- Personal Investment: **\$100.00 per Science Fair** (but it's not required)
- Science Fair Judging is a great opportunity to:
 - Interact with young people
 - Get their feelings on metrication
 - Promote metric (SI) literacy





Award Certificate Example



- Most awards are judged outside of USMA
- Need Science Fair judges!
- Volunteer Find an affiliated Science Fair!

USMA Resources:

- Science Fair Judging Guide
- How to Break Ties

