

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Special Awards Press Release

Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

Elemer Bernath Technical Writing Award

Anirudh Rao 7th grade
certificate, \$25
STEM School Highlands Ranch
A Novel Approach to Wound Management Using Hydrovoltaic Sensors

Ella Music 8th grade
certificate, \$50
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
A Haptic Guidance System for Visually Impaired Sport Climbers

Wensen Fang 8th grade
certificate, \$100
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
Blazing Bright: Uncovering the Truth Behind Wildfires in Colorado via Machine Learning

Ralph Desch Technical Writing Award

Serene Park 11th grade
certificate, \$25
Cherry Creek High School Greenwood Village
The Effect of Glyphosate on Bacillus subtilis Biofilm

Devang Pandey 12th grade
certificate, \$50
Fairview High School Boulder
Enhancing Brain Tumor Classification with Synthetic Data Via Gen Models and Hybrid Training

Vanya Lavu 12th grade
certificate, \$100
The Classical Academy Colorado Springs
Developing a Novel Enzyme Therapy for Improving GAD and Gastrointestinal Health in Rats

Junior Division Student Choice Award

Evan Gopinath 7th grade
certificate, momentum
Nevin Platt Middle School Boulder
The Pumpkin Carver

Senior Division Student Choice Award

Teagan Bruchez 10th grade
certificate, momentum
West Grand High School Kremmling
The Effects of the Transfer of Wolves and the Fertility Rate of Grand County Cattle

Poster Art Contest

Anirudh Rao 7th grade
certificate, \$100, use of artwork for next year's publications & t-shirt design
STEM School Highlands Ranch

Pioneers of Science

Burt Ratan Energy Award

Ingram Olson 6th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Telluride Intermediate School Telluride
A Better Solar Panel: Can Coating Solar Panels Improve Their Efficiency?

Dian Fossey Animal Sciences Award

Ava Shah 8th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
How Exercise Affects Stress Levels in Horses

Elizabeth Helen Blackburn Biomedical & Health Sciences Award

Trynity Typhair 8th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
West Grand Middle School Kremmling
You Are What You Eat

George Tchobanoglous Environmental Engineering Award

Paisley Anderson 8th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Creede Schools Creede
Mineral Mining Monsters: Time Will Tail

Isaac Newton Physics & Astronomy Award

Yezan Kassir 8th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Crescent View Academy Aurora
Marble Roller Coaster

James Patrick Allison Micro & Molecular Biology Award

Grace Cullen 8th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Yuma Middle School Yuma
Bacteria Buster

John Goodenough Chemistry Award

Jocelyn Kramer 8th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Good Shepherd Catholic School Denver
To Be or Not To Be Organic

Leon Festinger Behavioral & Social Sciences Award

Anabelle Pettinger 8th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Vilas Schools Vilas
Technology with the Youth

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Luther Burbank Plant Sciences Award

Gabriel Ferguson 7th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Craver Middle School Colorado City
Rootin' Rivals

Mary Ainsworth Behavioral & Social Sciences Award

Layla Reiss 8th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
Saving the Team

Steven Chu Engineering Award

Alex Dicker 7th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Monte Vista Middle School Monte Vista
Screw Water

Tim Berners-Lee Mathematics & Computer Sciences Award

Oliver Ciembronowicz 7th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Vallis Cymbia Academaie Frederick
Homeschool
Are They Listening To Us?

Wangari Muta Maathai Earth & Environmental Sciences Award

Kayla Melby 6th grade
\$50, certificate, poster of pioneer scientist
Yuma Middle School Yuma
Photosynthesis Through Thick and Thin: Development of a Light Collecting Device to Prevent Winterkill in Ice Covered Lakes

Military

United States Air Force Research Laboratory *Air Force Award*

Amy Zhang 10th grade
certificate, sling pack, power bank, USB flash memory drive,
USB car charger
Lakewood High School Lakewood
AI Guides, Vision-Impaired Act: Safety-Aware Actionable Guidance Via Vision-Language Models

Vaughn Bankston 9th grade
certificate, sling pack, power bank, USB flash memory drive,
USB car charger
Mancos High School Mancos
Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Iteration IX

John Finnessy 8th grade
certificate, sling pack, power bank, USB flash memory drive,
USB car charger
Challenge School Aurora
Making a Robotic Hand

United States Navy & Marine Corps *Navy Science and Engineering Award*

Abigail Lam 8th grade
certificate, ONR medallion, letter of congratulations
Flagstaff Academy Charter School Longmont
The Human Body in Space

Calvin Nabors 8th grade
Quinn Dempsie 8th grade
certificate, ONR medallion, letter of congratulations
Bayfield Middle School Bayfield
Sci-Fi in Reality

Xander Skul 7th grade
certificate, ONR medallion, letter of congratulations
D60 Online School Pueblo
Tensegrity Table

Benjamin Boedeker 7th grade
certificate, ONR medallion, letter of congratulations
Fort Morgan Middle School Fort Morgan
Hot Shot: An Observational Study of 5th Grade Boy Basketball Shot Percentage Evaluation and Optimization

Sreyanth Saipavan Alla 11th grade
certificate, ONR medallion, letter of congratulations
Rock Canyon High School Castle Pines
BactiScan: A Deep Convolutional Neural Network for Tracking Shigella flexneri Infection

Amy Zhang 10th grade
certificate, ONR medallion, letter of congratulations
Lakewood High School Lakewood
AI Guides, Vision-Impaired Act: Safety-Aware Actionable Guidance Via Vision-Language Models

Juakin Sawatzky 10th grade
certificate, ONR medallion, letter of congratulations
Liberty School Joes
Developing an Economical Method of Extracting REM from Mine Effluent Water

Organizational

Air & Waste Management Association **Rocky Mountain States Section** *Air & Waste Management Award*

Cameron Kempisty 8th grade
certificate, \$100
Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs
Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs. PFAS

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Jainil Parikh 6th grade
certificate, \$200
Challenger Middle School Colorado Springs
Harnessing Waste Powering Future

Sihan "Hunter" Liu 10th grade
certificate, \$100
Colorado Rocky Mountain School Carbondale
Sustainable Nitrate Remediation and Ammonia Production via Electrocatalysis Using a One-Dimensional Ni-BTA Coordination Polymer

Destiny Cornelius 12th grade
Ky Harkness 12th grade
certificate, \$200
Plainview School Towner
Biochar: An Organic Approach to Urban Heat Management

American Association of University Women *AAUW CO Award for Women in STEM*

Elsa Ciembronowicz 7th grade
certificate, \$250
Vallis Cymbia Academiae Frederick
Homeschool
Original Kitchen Insulin

Saahithi Kasa 11th grade
certificate, \$250
Cherry Creek High School Greenwood Village
Up in Smoke: The Effect of Protective Topical Ointment Against Wildfire Particle Penetration

American Industrial Hygiene Association Rocky Mountain Section *Excellence in Protection of Occupational Health & Safety Award*

Anirudh Rao 7th grade
certificate, \$150
STEM School Highlands Ranch
A Novel Approach to Wound Management Using Hydrovoltaic Sensors

Colter Dennison 9th grade
certificate, \$150
Mancos High School Mancos
Toxic Tributaries 2: Rivers Effect on Soil Chemistry

American Statistical Association Colorado/Wyoming Chapter *David Young Memorial Award*

Bianca Buczkowski 8th grade
certificate, student membership in the ASA, acknowledgement at chapter spring meeting and on the chapter website; \$200
Monument Academy Monument
Should Solar Panels Track the Sun?

Julia Gao 10th grade
certificate, student membership in the ASA, acknowledgement at chapter spring meeting and on the chapter website; \$200
Fairview High School Boulder
Toward Discovery of the Sterile Neutrino: Deep Learning Muon Neutrino Reconstruction at ICARUS

American Vacuum Society Rocky Mountain Chapter *Excellence in Physical Sciences & Engineering Award*

Bianca Buczkowski 8th grade
certificate, \$100, \$100 matching award for adult sponsor
Monument Academy Monument
Should Solar Panels Track the Sun?

Azucena Perez 7th grade
certificate, \$200, \$200 matching award for adult sponsor
Lamar Middle School Lamar
Radiation Safety First: The Life Saving Power of Radiation Shielding

Carson Stone 9th grade
Chase Pollart 10th grade
certificate, \$100, \$100 matching award for adult sponsor
Brush High School Brush
Water Tower Power - Storing Solar Energy with an Elevated Pumped Storage Hydropower System

Maria Sears 12th grade
certificate, \$200, \$200 matching award for adult sponsor
Monte Vista High School Monte Vista
Lung Distance Relationship: A Remote Monitoring Device That Tracks Pulmonary Function

Broadcom Foundation *Broadcom Coding with Commitment Award*

Bode Monahan 8th grade
certificate, Raspberry Pi Pico Kit, \$250
Liberty School Joes
Frequency Chaos: Coding a Wi-Fi Interrupter for Tactical Use

Colorado Biology Teachers Association *CBTA Best Biology Project Award*

Ansley DePue 8th grade
certificate, \$100
Wray Jr/Sr High School Wray
The Effects of Light Wavelength Treatments Towards the Germination Response and Seedling Growth Rate of Zea mays

Hannah Deering 7th grade
certificate, \$150
Yuma Middle School Yuma
The Potential Relationship Between Tibia Length and Speed in Samoyed Dogs Running 100 Yards

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Teagan Bruchez 10th grade
certificate, \$150
West Grand High School Kremmling
The Effects of the Transfer of Wolves and the Fertility Rate of Grand County Cattle

Natalie Muro 11th grade
certificate, \$200
Palmer High School Colorado Springs
A Sustainable Cyanobacteria Mitigation Method for Freshwater Ecosystems in the Rocky Mountain Region

Colorado BioScience Institute

Future of Life Science Award

Vedanth Raju 7th grade
certificate, \$25
Aurora Quest K-8 School Aurora
A Novel Plant-Based Topical Drug "Curcaza+" to Help Treat Diabetic Foot Ulcers/Infections and Help Reduce Antimicrobial Resistance

Maria Sears 12th grade
certificate, feature in the Institute's "Success Stories", \$75
Monte Vista High School Monte Vista
Lung Distance Relationship: A Remote Monitoring Device That Tracks Pulmonary Function

Colorado Chemistry Teachers Association

CCTA Chemistry Award

Neha Pesaramelli 11th grade
certificate, \$150
Peak to Peak Charter School Lafayette
Measuring Chemical Kinetics in High School Labs

Colorado Environmental Health Association

Environmental Health Award

Sierra Winslow 8th grade
certificate, \$75
Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs
Radon Detector: Where Does Radon Typically Accumulate in Buildings?

Natalia Woolcock 10th grade
certificate, invitation to exhibit at the CEHA Annual Educational Conference (valued at \$400), \$150
The Academy of Charter Schools Westminster
Reimagine Meat Labeling: Could We Change Buyer Choices and Lower Greenhouse Emissions by Adding Carbon Footprint Data to Consumer Labels?

Colorado Foundation for Agriculture

Jack Fenwick Award for Agricultural Science

Caprise Priestley 6th grade
certificate, \$50
Mancos Middle School Mancos
Electroculture Gardening and How It Affects Plants

Elliot Louthan 6th grade
certificate, \$50
Idalia School Idalia
Special Needs Pig Feeder

Bennett Esterday 10th grade
certificate, \$50
Animas High School Durango
Avant-Garde Agriculture: Indole-3-Acetic Acid and Growth in Tomatoes

Liam Griffin 9th grade
certificate, \$50
Sargent High School Monte Vista
An Absorbent Advantage: Using Wool Pellets to Conserve Water in Soil

Colorado Medical Society

CMS Education Foundation Award

Vedanth Raju 7th grade
certificate, invitation to exhibit at the Colorado Medical Society Annual Meeting (Sept. 13 in Keystone) and attend the Presidential Inaugural Dinner with a paid overnight stay
Aurora Quest K-8 School Aurora
A Novel Plant-Based Topical Drug "Curcaza+" to Help Treat Diabetic Foot Ulcers/Infections and Help Reduce Antimicrobial Resistance

Maria Sears 12th grade
certificate, invitation to exhibit at the Colorado Medical Society Annual Meeting (Sept. 13 in Keystone) and attend the Presidential Inaugural Dinner with a paid overnight stay
Monte Vista High School Monte Vista
Lung Distance Relationship: A Remote Monitoring Device That Tracks Pulmonary Function

Colorado Mineral Society

Best Earth Science Award

Maci Widger 8th grade
certificate, \$50, mineral specimen, book
Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Under Pressure

Augustus Gdanitz 11th grade
certificate, \$35, mineral specimen, book
Wray Jr/Sr High School Wray
The Use of Zeolites in Mitigating Red Algae Blooms

Colter Dennison 9th grade
certificate, \$50, mineral specimen, book
Mancos High School Mancos
Toxic Tributaries 2: Rivers Effect on Soil Chemistry

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Colorado Mycological Society

Excellence in Mycological Research Award

Lola Sondrol 8th grade
certificate, \$25, CMS membership, certificate, signed copy of
Vera Evenson's "Rocky Mountain Mushrooms"
Monte Vista Online Academy Monte Vista
Do Endophytes Affect the Growth of Lolium perenne?

Humza Memon 7th grade
certificate, \$50, CMS membership, certificate, signed copy of
Vera Evenson's "Rocky Mountain Mushrooms"
Crescent View Academy Aurora
*From Kitchen to Energy: Leveraging Fermentation Enhancers
for Improved Biogas Production*

Cami Wolkow 11th grade
certificate, \$100, CMS membership, certificate, signed copy of
Vera Evenson's "Rocky Mountain Mushrooms"
Palmer High School Colorado Springs
Genetically Enhancing Fungi to Bioremediate Tetracycline

Colorado Native Plant Society

Native Plant Award

Kendyl Osborn 7th grade
certificate, 1-year membership to CNPS, book on Colorado
native plants, \$150
La Junta Junior High School La Junta
Monarch Butterfly Pitstop

Kaycee Clark 9th grade
certificate, 1-year membership to CNPS, book on Colorado
native plants, \$150
Wray Jr/Sr High School Wray
*Cheater Cheater Rangeland Eater: A Study on Mitigating the
Spread of Downy Brome Using Pseudomonas Fluoresens D7
and ACK55*

Colorado Section of the American Chemical Society

ACS Chemistry Award

Amelie Andujar 7th grade
Emely Quijada 7th grade
Bianeta Ugwo 7th grade
certificate, \$50
Brush Middle School Brush
*How Does UV Light Affect the Protection of Different Brands
of Sunscreen*

Jocelyn Schoenfeld 6th grade
certificate, \$50
Genoa-Hugo School Hugo
Skittles Chromatography

Kassidy Schlepp 8th grade
certificate, \$50
St. John the Baptist Catholic School Longmont
The Last Light

Kenley Mitchell 7th grade
certificate, \$75
Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Light It Before You Bite It!

Jocelyn Kramer 8th grade
certificate, \$125
Good Shepherd Catholic School Denver
To Be or Not To Be Organic

Violet Sandridge 8th grade
certificate, \$150
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
*Radiation Resilience: Evaluating Photostability in Natural
and Synthetic Sunscreens*

Layna Snyder 9th grade
Caroline Prieto 9th grade
certificate, \$75
Brush High School Brush
The Lake Nyos Tragedy: What Caused It?

Arnav Venkatesh 10th grade
certificate, \$125
Grandview High School Aurora
*Enhancing Microbot Functionality Through Single Layered
Hydrogels*

Sophia Zhang 11th grade
certificate, \$150
Fairview High School Boulder
*Natural Eutectogels As a Novel Material for Green Electronic
Skin*

Colorado State University

College of Agricultural Sciences

Innovations in the Science of Agriculture Awards

Hannah Deering 7th grade
certificate, \$500
Yuma Middle School Yuma
*The Potential Relationship Between Tibia Length and Speed in
Samoyed Dogs Running 100 Yards*

Luciana Dougherty 6th grade
certificate, \$500
Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School Boulder
Can Those Tiny Gels Save Agriculture's Water Crisis?

Haydan Drullinger 11th grade
certificate, \$500
Liberty School Joes
AgriVision: Augmented Reality for Precision Farming

Priya Mayjoy 9th grade
certificate, \$500
Lamar High School Lamar
*Monitoring Apis Mellifera Linnaeus for Winter Survival, Year
Two*

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Special Awards Press Release

Janet Ngomba Bajikijay 12th grade
 Mayssan Salim 12th grade
 Nayibe Burciaga Buhaya 12th grade
 certificate, \$500
 Lotus School for Excellence Aurora
The Effect of Nanoparticles on Plant Growth

Colorado State University Department of Agricultural Biology Agricultural Biology Award

Elaina Consaul 8th grade
 certificate, \$100
 Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Salinity Solution: A Study of How the Salinity in Water Affects Plant Growth

Lola Sondrol 8th grade
 certificate, \$100
 Monte Vista Online Academy Monte Vista
Do Endophytes Affect the Growth of Lolium perenne?

Om Vegesna 10th grade
 certificate, \$100
 Fairview High School Boulder
Combating Root-Knot (Meloidogyne spp.) and Fusarium oxysporum with Stabilized Allicin and siRNA Constructs

Janet Ngomba Bajikijay 12th grade
 Mayssan Salim 12th grade
 Nayibe Burciaga Buhaya 12th grade
 certificate, \$100
 Lotus School for Excellence Aurora
The Effect of Nanoparticles on Plant Growth

Colorado State University Department of Chemistry Excellence in Chemistry Award

McKayla Red 8th grade
 certificate, \$75
 Ignacio Middle School Ignacio
DIY Remedies for Getting a Stain Out

Amelie Andujar 7th grade
 Emely Quijada 7th grade
 Bianeta Ugwo 7th grade
 certificate, \$175
 Brush Middle School Brush
How Does UV Light Affect the Protection of Different Brands of Sunscreen

Jack Griepentrog 9th grade
 certificate, \$75
 SkyView Academy Highlands Ranch
Baking the Perfect Chocolate Chip Cookie

Layna Snyder 9th grade
 Caroline Prieto 9th grade
 certificate, \$175
 Brush High School Brush
The Lake Nyos Tragedy: What Caused It?

Colorado State University Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture

Excellence in Horticulture Award

Elaina Consaul 8th grade
 certificate, \$100
 Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Salinity Solution: A Study of How the Salinity in Water Affects Plant Growth

Yasaswini Vinjamuri 7th grade
 certificate, \$100
 Heritage Heights Academy Centennial
Who Shrank the Potatoes?!

Emilio Ortiz 11th grade
 certificate, \$100
 Monte Vista High School Monte Vista
Soil Additives Are Spud-Tacular

Om Vegesna 10th grade
 certificate, \$100
 Fairview High School Boulder
Combating Root-Knot (Meloidogyne spp.) and Fusarium oxysporum with Stabilized Allicin and siRNA Constructs

Colorado State University Natural Heritage Program CNHP Conservation Award

Lauren Erickson 12th grade
 certificate, pint glass, Wetlands of Colorado guidebook
 Evergreen High School Evergreen
The Effect of Fire Mitigation on Avian Biodiversity as Measured Through Bioacoustics

Colorado's Electric Cooperatives The Colorado EnergyWise Award

Connor Stone 7th grade
 Evelyn Lapp 8th grade
 certificate, \$75
 Brush Middle School Brush
Insulation Investigation

Ingram Olson 6th grade
 certificate, \$175
 Telluride Intermediate School Telluride
A Better Solar Panel: Can Coating Solar Panels Improve Their Efficiency?

Carson Stone 9th grade
 Chase Pollart 10th grade
 certificate, \$75
 Brush High School Brush
Water Tower Power - Storing Solar Energy with an Elevated Pumped Storage Hydropower System

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Special Awards Press Release

Zoe Wang 10th grade
certificate, \$175
Fairview High School Boulder
From Bench to Atmosphere: New Materials for the Direct Air Capture (DAC) of CO₂ Using Electro-Swing Chemistry

Colorado-Wyoming Society of American Foresters

Excellence in Forestry Research Award

Cameron Kempisty 8th grade
certificate, \$200
Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs
Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs. PFAS
Naomi Kruse 11th grade
certificate, \$200
Schullandheim Homeschool Colorado Springs
Paper for the Planet 2: Kickstarting Microbial Succession Following California Wildfires

Gromko Family

Gerald Gromko Memorial Award

Haydan Drullinger 11th grade
certificate, \$250
Liberty School Joes
AgriVision: Augmented Reality for Precision Farming

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, High Plains Section IEEE Award

Ella Music 8th grade
certificate, \$125 Amazon gift card
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
A Haptic Guidance System for Visually Impaired Sport Climbers

Tristan Cao 11th grade
certificate, \$175 Amazon gift card
Stargate Charter School Thornton
Emergent Quantum Inductance in Chiral Orbital Current State

Little Shop of Physics

Matthew McCausland Memorial Award

Laurel Amber Kent 7th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs
Magic Mouse: A Touchless, Thermin-based Mouse to Help People with Hand Limitations

Maci Widger 8th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Under Pressure

Michael Caraher 8th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
St. John the Baptist Catholic School Longmont
Beware of the Pocket Rocket

Emily Abdulsalam 8th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
Crescent View Academy Aurora
How Does Viscosity of Different Liquids Affect the Speed of a Moving Object?

Elliot Louthan 6th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
Idalia School Idalia
Special Needs Pig Feeder

Lane Mattive 8th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Can I Get a Lift?

Mateo Feit 9th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
Fairview High School Boulder
The PetProfiler: Machine Learning and Mechanics for a Smart Doggy Door

Dillon Curtis 10th grade
Meah Ring Hall 12th grade
Hector Villacana Saucedo 10th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
Brush High School Brush
Modeling the Flight Paths of Conical Meteorites

Tyler Wickham 12th grade
certificate, science equipment/instruments
Golden High School Golden
Breathe Easy: Comfort-Focused Respirators for Wildland Firefighters

Lockheed Martin

Lockheed Martin Aerospace Award

Lane Mattive 8th grade
certificate, \$150
Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Can I Get a Lift?

Helen Wan 10th grade
certificate, \$350
Pine Creek High School Colorado Springs
Time-Sensitive Medicine Dissolution in a Microgravity Environment Emulated by Acoustic Levitation

Matt Hannifin - CO₂/Greenhouse Gas Reduction CO₂ & Greenhouse Gas Reduction Award

Westlea Tipsword 9th grade
certificate, \$100
Homeschool Saguache
Effects of Vitamin E Supplements on Horse Health and Performance

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Marin Hayes certificate, \$100 Boulder Country Day School <i>No Need for Speed</i>	8th grade Boulder	Maci Widger certificate, \$50 Sargent Middle School <i>Under Pressure</i>	8th grade Monte Vista
Natalia Woolcock certificate, \$100 The Academy of Charter Schools <i>Reimagine Meat Labeling: Could We Change Buyer Choices and Lower Greenhouse Emissions by Adding Carbon Footprint Data to Consumer Labels?</i>	10th grade Westminster	Elliot Louthan certificate, \$100 Idalia School <i>Special Needs Pig Feeder</i>	6th grade Idalia
Saahithi Kasa certificate, \$100 Cherry Creek High School <i>Up in Smoke: The Effect of Protective Topical Ointment Against Wildfire Particle Penetration</i>	11th grade Greenwood Village	James Little certificate, \$100 Monte Vista High School <i>Shooting for the Stars</i>	11th grade Monte Vista
Layna Snyder Caroline Prieto certificate, \$100 Brush High School <i>The Lake Nyos Tragedy: What Caused It?</i>	9th grade 9th grade Brush	Destiny Cornelius Ky Harkness certificate, \$50 Plainview School <i>Biochar: An Organic Approach to Urban Heat Management</i>	12th grade 12th grade Towner
Gerardo Rodriguez Ramirez certificate, \$50 Boston K-8 School <i>Breaking Down Light: Investigating the Effects That Different Wavelengths of Light Have on Plant Growth and Mitosis</i>	7th grade Aurora	Jainil Parikh certificate, \$100 Challenger Middle School <i>Harnessing Waste Powering Future</i>	6th grade Colorado Springs
Cameron Kempisty certificate, \$100 Eagleview Middle School <i>Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs. PFAS</i>	8th grade Colorado Springs	Zoe Wang certificate, \$50 Fairview High School <i>From Bench to Atmosphere: New Materials for the Direct Air Capture (DAC) of CO2 Using Electro-Swing Chemistry</i>	10th grade Boulder
Hannah Shelton certificate, \$50 Centauri High School <i>Sediment Signatures: Unveiling the Impact of Sedimentary Deposits on Diatoms Through Lake Bottom Sampling</i>	12th grade La Jara	Naomi Kruse certificate, \$100 Schullandheim Homeschool <i>Paper for the Planet 2: Kickstarting Microbial Succession Following California Wildfires</i>	11th grade Colorado Springs
Reagan Futrell certificate, \$100 Monte Vista High School <i>Gaining Ground: Effectiveness of Zeedyk Structures on Herbaceous Establishment and Moisture Retention within Waterways</i>	11th grade Monte Vista	Wensen Fang certificate, \$100 Summit Charter Middle School <i>Blazing Bright: Uncovering the Truth Behind Wildfires in Colorado via Machine Learning</i>	8th grade Boulder
Ingram Olson certificate, \$100 Telluride Intermediate School <i>A Better Solar Panel: Can Coating Solar Panels Improve Their Efficiency?</i>	6th grade Telluride	Ayush Vispute certificate, \$100 Rampart High School <i>Protein Flow v2: Biocomputational Analysis of Metabolic Pathways to Discover New Carbon Capturing Bacteria</i>	10th grade Colorado Springs
Carson Stone Chase Pollart certificate, \$100 Brush High School <i>Water Tower Power - Storing Solar Energy with an Elevated Pumped Storage Hydropower System</i>	9th grade 10th grade Brush	Julia Muro certificate, \$100 North Middle School <i>Modified Atmosphere Packaging Strategies for Prolonged Organic Strawberry Health</i>	8th grade Colorado Springs
		Augustus Gdanitz certificate, \$100 Wray Jr/Sr High School <i>The Use of Zeolites in Mitigating Red Algae Blooms</i>	11th grade Wray

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Alexander Knight certificate, \$100 Corwin International Magnet School <i>Taking Flight: Why Are Winglets Important?</i>	7th grade Pueblo 9th grade Brush 6th grade Mancos 6th grade Boulder 9th grade Wray
Madison Gunnels certificate, \$100 Brush High School <i>It's Not Mike Tyson, But It's Still a Siphon</i>	
Caprise Priestley certificate, \$50 Mancos Middle School <i>Electroculture Gardening and How It Affects Plants</i>	
Kyle Shee certificate, \$100 Boulder Country Day School <i>What Fertilized Water Will Make a Plant Grow Better?</i>	
Kaycee Clark certificate, \$100 Wray Jr/Sr High School <i>Cheater Cheater Rangeland Eater: A Study on Mitigating the Spread of Downy Brome Using Pseudomonas Fluoresens D7 and ACK55</i>	

National Security Agency NSA Special Award

Laurel Amber Kent certificate, Cyber Bot Eagleview Middle School <i>Magic Mouse: A Touchless, Thermin-based Mouse to Help People with Hand Limitations</i>	7th grade Colorado Springs 8th grade Aurora 7th grade Frederick 10th grade Lakewood 12th grade Boulder
Omar Manshad certificate, PiDog & Raspberry Pi4 & SD Card Crescent View Academy <i>Building a Safe Robotic Arm for Table-Top Interactions</i>	
Oliver Ciembronowicz certificate, 3D Printer Vallis Cymbia Academaie Homeschool <i>Are They Listening To Us?</i>	
Amy Zhang certificate, LimeSDR Lakewood High School <i>AI Guides, Vision-Impaired Act: Safety-Aware Actionable Guidance Via Vision-Language Models</i>	
Alexander Zhang certificate, PiDog, & Raspberry Pi4 & SDCard Fairview High School <i>SchoolFinance: A Novel Machine Learning Framework for Optimized School Funding Allocation</i>	

Tanush Shekhar Jack Cerullo certificate, Digital Microscope Peak to Peak Charter School <i>Revolutionizing CryoEt: Novel Simulation Techniques for ML-Based Tomograph Labeling</i>	11th grade 12th grade Lafayette 9th grade Boulder
Mateo Feit certificate, 3D Printer Fairview High School <i>The PetProfiler: Machine Learning and Mechanics for a Smart Doggy Door</i>	

Platte River Power Authority PRPA Special Award for Energy Efficiency and Innovation

Connor Stone Evelyn Lapp certificate, \$200 Brush Middle School <i>Insulation Investigation</i>	7th grade 8th grade Brush 9th grade 10th grade Brush
Carson Stone Chase Pollart certificate, \$300 Brush High School <i>Water Tower Power - Storing Solar Energy with an Elevated Pumped Storage Hydropower System</i>	

PRPA Special Award for Environmental Responsibility

Jainil Parikh certificate, \$200 Challenger Middle School <i>Harnessing Waste Powering Future</i>	6th grade Colorado Springs 10th grade Boulder
Zoe Wang certificate, \$300 Fairview High School <i>From Bench to Atmosphere: New Materials for the Direct Air Capture (DAC) of CO2 Using Electro-Swing Chemistry</i>	

Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists Foundation Excellence in Earth Sciences Award

Ben Zhao certificate, \$200 Summit Charter Middle School <i>Earthquake Asperities Relation to Recurrence</i>	8th grade Boulder 7th grade 7th grade Kremmling
Lyndee Thomson Ryder Pryor certificate, \$300 West Grand Middle School <i>Waters' Ways</i>	

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Lochlan DaRonco 12th grade
certificate, \$200
Evergreen High School Evergreen
Bear Creek Geological and pH Analysis

Colter Dennison 9th grade
certificate, \$300
Mancos High School Mancos
Toxic Tributaries 2: Rivers Effect on Soil Chemistry

Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Colorado Section

Award for Excellence in Mineral Science & Engineering

Paisley Anderson 8th grade
plaque, \$200
Creede Schools Creede
Mineral Mining Monsters: Time Will Tail

Ava Boblitt 6th grade
plaque, \$300
Bayfield Middle School Bayfield
*Neutralizing Acid from Acid Mine Drainage in Silverton,
Colorado*

Naomi Kruse 11th grade
plaque, \$300
Schullandheim Homeschool Colorado Springs
*Paper for the Planet 2: Kickstarting Microbial Succession
Following California Wildfires*

Juakin Sawatzky 10th grade
plaque, \$500
Liberty School Joes
*Developing an Economical Method of Extracting REM from
Mine Effluent Water*

Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Colorado Chapter 354

Andy Keller Memorial Award

John Finnessy 8th grade
certificate, recognition by the local chapter, \$200
Challenge School Aurora
Making a Robotic Hand

Mateo Feit 9th grade
certificate, recognition by the local chapter, \$100
Fairview High School Boulder
*The PetProfiler: Machine Learning and Mechanics for a
Smart Doggy Door*

Maddox King 10th grade
certificate, recognition by the local chapter, \$150
Yuma High School Yuma
Future Development of a Computer Chip: Year 1 - Coding

Society of Women Engineers Rocky Mountain Section

SWE Award

Laurel Amber Kent 7th grade
certificate, \$75
Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs
*Magic Mouse: A Touchless, Thermin-based Mouse to Help
People with Hand Limitations*

Ella Music 8th grade
certificate, \$100
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
*A Haptic Guidance System for Visually Impaired Sport
Climbers*

Sophia Zhang 11th grade
certificate, \$75
Fairview High School Boulder
*Natural Eutectogels As a Novel Material for Green Electronic
Skin*

Siddhi Singh 11th grade
certificate, \$100
STEM School Highlands Ranch
*A Low-Cost, Onboard Animal Detection System to Mitigate
Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions*

State of Colorado - Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety

DRMS Outstanding Science Exhibit Award

Paisley Anderson 8th grade
certificate, gift bag, \$100
Creede Schools Creede
Mineral Mining Monsters: Time Will Tail

Juakin Sawatzky 10th grade
same award
Liberty School Joes
*Developing an Economical Method of Extracting REM from
Mine Effluent Water*

The Biophysical Society

The Biophysics Award

Izzy Michael 9th grade
certificate, \$100
Green Mountain High School Lakewood
Bone Trauma Analysis

The Morrow Family

Fire Fighter Award

Tyler Wickham 12th grade
certificate, \$100
Golden High School Golden
*Breathe Easy: Comfort-Focused Respirators for Wildland
Firefighters*

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Special Awards Press Release

Morrow Family Dental Award

Eli Harrison 7th grade
Jagadish White 7th grade
certificate,
Home School Erie
The Effect of Pet Toothpaste on the Canine Oral
Cami Wolkow 11th grade
certificate,
Palmer High School Colorado Springs
Genetically Enhancing Fungi to Bioremediate Tetracycline

The Sara Volz Family

Best Contributions to Fundamental Science Award

Julia Gao 10th grade
certificate, \$300
Fairview High School Boulder
*Toward Discovery of the Sterile Neutrino: Deep Learning
Muon Neutrino Reconstruction at ICARUS*
Ayush Vispute 10th grade
certificate, \$300
Rampart High School Colorado Springs
*Protein Flow v2: Biocomputational Analysis of Metabolic
Pathways to Discover New Carbon Capturing Bacteria*

The Warnock Family

Warnock Family Award

Maria Sears 12th grade
certificate, \$100
Monte Vista High School Monte Vista
*Lung Distance Relationship: A Remote Monitoring Device
That Tracks Pulmonary Function*
Julia Gao 10th grade
certificate, \$100
Fairview High School Boulder
*Toward Discovery of the Sterile Neutrino: Deep Learning
Muon Neutrino Reconstruction at ICARUS*

The Wilkins Family

Young Entrepreneur's Award

Maria Sears 12th grade
certificate, \$750
Monte Vista High School Monte Vista
*Lung Distance Relationship: A Remote Monitoring Device
That Tracks Pulmonary Function*

The Wojtaszek Family

Paul Wojtaszek Memorial Award

Ria Rajaseckharan 10th grade
certificate, \$100
Fossil Ridge High School Fort Collins
*Glycopeptidolipids: A New Diagnostic Tool for COPD and
Cystic Fibrosis Patients Infected with Non-Tuberculous
Mycobacteria*

Thermo Fisher Scientific

Advancing Equity Through Innovation Award

Grace Cullen 8th grade
certificate, \$200
Yuma Middle School Yuma
Bacteria Buster
Julia Muro 8th grade
certificate, \$200
North Middle School Colorado Springs
*Modified Atmosphere Packaging Strategies for Prolonged
Organic Strawberry Health*
Sammy Maloney 8th grade
certificate, \$200
Bayfield Middle School Bayfield
*Breaking Barriers: Language Learning and Cultural
Understanding*
Sierra Winslow 8th grade
certificate, \$200
Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs
*Radon Detector: Where Does Radon Typically Accumulate in
Buildings?*

Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited River Conservation Award

Naomi Kruse 11th grade
certificate, \$75
Schullandheim Homeschool Colorado Springs
*Paper for the Planet 2: Kickstarting Microbial Succession
Following California Wildfires*
Amelie Hunziker 12th grade
AJ Gruenewald 12th grade
certificate \$125
Monarch High School Louisville
*Reaching New Lights: An Explorative Study on the
Occurrence of Biofluorescence in Amphibia*
Kayla Melby 6th grade
certificate, \$200
Yuma Middle School Yuma
*Photosynthesis Through Thick and Thin: Development of a
Light Collecting Device to Prevent Winterkill in Ice Covered
Lakes*

Zonta Club of Boulder County

Amelia Earhart Award

Lillian Prime 12th grade
certificate, \$100
Palmer High School Colorado Springs
*Analysis and Comparison of Gravitational Wave Event
Parameters*

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Special Awards Press Release

Scholarships

Colorado School of Mines

Colorado School of Mines CSEF Scholarships

Jenny Xu 11th grade
Amanda Zou 11th grade
\$1,000 CSM scholarship, renewable for up to 3 additional years for use towards an undergraduate degree at the Colorado School of Mines
Fairview High School Boulder
Disrupting PCSK9 and ANGPTL3 Genes with CRISPR for Hypercholesterolemia Treatment

Roa Lee 11th grade
\$1,000 CSM scholarship, renewable for up to 3 additional years for use towards an undergraduate degree at the Colorado School of Mines
Mountain Vista High School Highlands Ranch
MMP-Deactivating Therapeutic Contact Lenses for Corneal Melting

Sophia Zhang 11th grade
\$1,000 CSM scholarship, renewable for up to 3 additional years for use towards an undergraduate degree at the Colorado School of Mines
Fairview High School Boulder
Natural Eutectogels As a Novel Material for Green Electronic Skin

Natalie Muro 11th grade
\$1,000 CSM scholarship, renewable for up to 3 additional years for use towards an undergraduate degree at the Colorado School of Mines
Palmer High School Colorado Springs
A Sustainable Cyanobacteria Mitigation Method for Freshwater Ecosystems in the Rocky Mountain Region

Tristan Cao 11th grade
\$1,000 CSM scholarship, renewable for up to 3 additional years for use towards an undergraduate degree at the Colorado School of Mines
Stargate Charter School Thornton
Emergent Quantum Inductance in Chiral Orbital Current State

Siddhi Singh 11th grade
\$1,000 CSM scholarship, renewable for up to 3 additional years for use towards an undergraduate degree at the Colorado School of Mines
STEM School Highlands Ranch
A Low-Cost, Onboard Animal Detection System to Mitigate Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions

Colorado State University

College of Agricultural Sciences

Innovations in the Science of Agriculture Scholarship

Teagan Bruchez 10th grade
certificate, \$1,000 scholarship for the 1st semester of attendance at CSU while enrolled in a College of Ag Sciences major
West Grand High School Kremmling
The Effects of the Transfer of Wolves and the Fertility Rate of Grand County Cattle

Ali Abostate 12th grade
certificate, \$1,000 scholarship for the 1st semester of attendance at CSU while enrolled in a College of Ag Sciences major
Lotus School for Excellence Aurora
The Role of Green Roofs in Urban Sustainability

Colorado State University, Pueblo

Colorado State University Pueblo Scholarship

Mateo Feit 9th grade
certificate, \$1,000 renewable scholarship to Colorado State University, Pueblo
Fairview High School Boulder
The PetProfiler: Machine Learning and Mechanics for a Smart Doggy Door

Matt Hannifin

Reduction of CO2 & Greenhouse Gases Scholarship

Ayush Vispute 10th grade
certificate, \$3,200 non-renewable scholarship
Rampart High School Colorado Springs
Protein Flow v2: Biocomputational Analysis of Metabolic Pathways to Discover New Carbon Capturing Bacteria

Society

American Psychological Association

APA Achievement in Research in Psychological Science Award

Sammy Maloney 8th grade
certificate, APA student membership
Bayfield Middle School Bayfield
Breaking Barriers: Language Learning and Cultural Understanding

Calvin Johnson 12th grade
Aarnav Jain 12th grade
certificate, APA student membership
Peak to Peak Charter School Lafayette
Sympathetic Nervous System Activation Effects on Short-Term Memory in a Virtual Environment

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Special Awards Press Release

Association for Women Geoscientists

AWG Excellence in the Geosciences Award

Aylin Melgar Bobadilla 8th grade
 Nayla Gutierrez 8th grade
 certificate, honorary AWG membership
 Wray Jr/Sr High School Wray
Helpful Organisms: Using Microorganisms in Eutrophic Bodies of Water

Lemelson Foundation

Lemelson Early Inventor Prize

Solomon Charlton-Jones 7th grade
 \$100 (response required from winner to process), certificate
 Flagstaff Academy Charter School Longmont
The Poly Cracker 2.0: A Size and Weight Controlled Birdhouse

NASA

NASA Earth System Science Award

Ben Zhao 8th grade
 certificate
 Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
Earthquake Asperities Relation to Recurrence

Alex Kugler 12th grade
 Zoe Kugler 12th grade
 certificate
 Monarch High School Louisville
Comparison of Aurora Activity with Thermosphere Na and Fe (TiNa and TiFe) Layers at McMurdo Station

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Taking the Pulse of the Planet Award

Aidan Tipton 8th grade
 Silas Morrison 8th grade
 certificate
 Bayfield Middle School Bayfield
Oceanic Waste Removal

Allan Luo Yu 10th grade
 certificate
 Fairview High School Boulder
The Effects of Climate Change on Allergens and Human Health

Regneron

Regeneron Biomedical Science Award

Aishwarya Kamineni 10th grade
 certificate, \$375 (response required from winner to process payment)
 Grandview High School Aurora
Optimization of Non-Invasive Pneumonia Prediction Using Novel Machine Learning Algorithms

Ricoh

Ricoh Sustainable Development Award

Ben Zhao 8th grade
 certificate
 Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
Earthquake Asperities Relation to Recurrence

Ali Abostate 12th grade
 certificate
 Lotus School for Excellence Aurora
The Role of Green Roofs in Urban Sustainability

Society for In Vitro Biology

Outstanding Achievement in In Vitro Biology Award

Zechariah Dilley 11th grade
 certificate, membership in the Society, recognition in Society's news letter and on website
 South High School Pueblo
Cloning and Testing of Phage Genes

Society for Science

Thermo Fisher Junior Innovators Challenge

Sienna Harden 7th grade
 Cora Bauer 8th grade
 certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators Challenge
 St. Joseph Catholic School Fort Collins
Are Dewormers Needed Here?

Hannah Deering 7th grade
 certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators Challenge
 Yuma Middle School Yuma
The Potential Relationship Between Tibia Length and Speed in Samoyed Dogs Running 100 Yards

Juliet Huckabay 8th grade
 certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators Challenge
 Skinner Middle School Denver
The Impact of Age on Pattern Separation and Completion

Marin Hayes 8th grade
 certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators Challenge
 Boulder Country Day School Boulder
No Need for Speed

Lola Sondrol 8th grade
 certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators Challenge
 Monte Vista Online Academy Monte Vista
Do Endophytes Affect the Growth of Lolium perenne?

Elaina Consaul 8th grade
 certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators Challenge
 Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Salinity Solution: A Study of How the Salinity in Water Affects Plant Growth

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Special Awards Press Release

Mateo Guerrero 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
Fruit Flies Attraction to Different Doughs to Conclude Health Inferences

Vedanth Raju 7th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Aurora Quest K-8 School Aurora
A Novel Plant-Based Topical Drug "Curcaza+" to Help Treat Diabetic Foot Ulcers/Infections and Help Reduce Antimicrobial Resistance

Violet Sandridge 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
Radiation Resilience: Evaluating Photostability in Natural and Synthetic Sunscreens

Kenley Mitchell 7th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Light It Before You Bite It!

Cameron Kempisty 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs
Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs. PFAS

Kendyl Osborn 7th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
La Junta Junior High School La Junta
Monarch Butterfly Pitstop

Ingram Olson 6th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Telluride Intermediate School Telluride
A Better Solar Panel: Can Coating Solar Panels Improve Their Efficiency?

Bianca Buczkowski 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Monument Academy Monument
Should Solar Panels Track the Sun?

Omar Manshad 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Crescent View Academy Aurora
Building a Safe Robotic Arm for Table-Top Interactions

Ella Music 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
A Haptic Guidance System for Visually Impaired Sport Climbers

Paisley Anderson 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Creede Schools Creede
Mineral Mining Monsters: Time Will Tail

Lyndee Thomson 7th grade
Ryder Pryor 7th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
West Grand Middle School Kremmling
Waters' Ways

Wensen Fang 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
Blazing Bright: Uncovering the Truth Behind Wildfires in Colorado via Machine Learning

Bode Monahan 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Liberty School Joes
Frequency Chaos: Coding a Wi-Fi Interrupter for Tactical Use

Julia Muro 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
North Middle School Colorado Springs
Modified Atmosphere Packaging Strategies for Prolonged Organic Strawberry Health

Paisley Wiersma 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Genoa-Hugo School Hugo
What's in That Water?

Lane Mattive 8th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
Sargent Middle School Monte Vista
Can I Get a Lift?

Vivian Bozek 7th grade
certificate, nomination to enter the 2025 Junior Innovators
Challenge
St. Joseph Catholic School Fort Collins
Light It Up and Launch It

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Special Awards Press Release

United States Metric Association

*Outstanding Achievement in the Use of the
International System Award*

Ben Zhao 8th grade
certificate, membership in the US Metric Association
Summit Charter Middle School Boulder
Earthquake Asperities Relation to Recurrence

Yale Science & Engineering Association

*Outstanding Achievement in Science & Engineering
Award*

Haydan Drullinger 11th grade
certificate, E-book (response required from winner to be
processed)
Liberty School Joes
AgriVision: Augmented Reality for Precision Farming

Teacher

Colorado Association of Science Teachers

CAST Teacher Award

Bryan Eubank
certificate, \$150, one year free membership to CAST
Creede Schools Creede

Brady Archer
certificate, \$150, one year free membership to CAST
Mancos Middle School Mancos

Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

Doug Steward Memorial Teacher Award

Brady Archer
certificate, \$350
Mancos Middle School Mancos

Amy Melby
certificate, \$350
Yuma High School Yuma

James Osborn
certificate, \$350
Las Animas High School Las Animas

Kristi Mathiesen
certificate, \$350
Monte Vista Middle School Monte Vista

Lockheed Martin

CSEF Teacher of the Year

Brady Archer
certificate, \$3,000 grant for use at the school for student
research
Mancos Middle School Mancos

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Grand Award Winners

Junior Division Best of CSEF Project

First Place

Omar Manshad 8th grade
Building a Safe Robotic Arm for Table-Top Interactions
 Crescent View Academy Aurora

Second Place

Sienna Harden 7th grade
 Cora Bauer 8th grade
Are Dewormers Needed Here?
 St. Joseph Catholic School Fort Collins

Third Place

Cameron Kempisty 8th grade
Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs. PFAS
 Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs

Senior Division Best of CSEF Project

First Place

Amy Zhang 10th grade
AI Guides, Vision-Impaired Act: Safety-Aware Actionable Guidance Via Vision-Language Models
 Lakewood High School Lakewood

Second Place

Tristan Cao 11th grade
Emergent Quantum Inductance in Chiral Orbital Current State
 Stargate Charter School Thornton

Third Place

Sophia Zhang 11th grade
Natural Eutectogels As a Novel Material for Green Electronic Skin
 Fairview High School Boulder

Fourth Place

Lydia Mekelburg 12th grade
Year Two- Spatial Analysis of Chronic Wasting Disease in Northern Colorado Deer Populations: Analysis of Age Structure Utilizing Cementum Annuli
 Yuma High School Yuma

Fifth Place

Natalie Muro 11th grade
A Sustainable Cyanobacteria Mitigation Method for Freshwater Ecosystems in the Rocky Mountain Region
 Palmer High School Colorado Springs

Junior Division Animal Sciences

First Place

Sienna Harden 7th grade
 Cora Bauer 8th grade
Are Dewormers Needed Here?
 St. Joseph Catholic School Fort Collins

Second Place

Finnley Reitz 7th grade
The Great Quail Query
 Lamar Middle School Lamar

Third Place

Hannah Deering 7th grade
The Potential Relationship Between Tibia Length and Speed in Samoyed Dogs Running 100 Yards
 Yuma Middle School Yuma

Honorable Mention

Ava Shah 8th grade
How Exercise Affects Stress Levels in Horses
 Summit Charter Middle School Boulder

Honorable Mention

Levi Spencer 8th grade
Light Triggers on Serotonin Levels
 Liberty School Joes

Senior Division Animal Sciences

First Place

Lydia Mekelburg 12th grade
Year Two- Spatial Analysis of Chronic Wasting Disease in Northern Colorado Deer Populations: Analysis of Age Structure Utilizing Cementum Annuli
 Yuma High School Yuma

Second Place

Chloe Whiton 12th grade
The Snack Snatcher Stopper: "An Automatic Locking Dog Bowl"
 Centaurus High School Louisville

Third Place

Priya Mayjoy 9th grade
Monitoring Apis Mellifera Linnaeus for Winter Survival, Year Two
 Lamar High School Lamar

Honorable Mention

Teagan Bruchez 10th grade
The Effects of the Transfer of Wolves and the Fertility Rate of Grand County Cattle
 West Grand High School Kremmling

Junior Division Behavioral & Social Sciences

First Place

Juliet Huckabay 8th grade
The Impact of Age on Pattern Separation and Completion
 Skinner Middle School Denver

Second Place

Marin Hayes 8th grade
No Need for Speed
 Boulder Country Day School Boulder

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Grand Award Winners

Third Place

Luke Tollefson 6th grade
Where's Waldo: A Study on Attention Using Eye Tracking
 St. John the Evangelist Catholic School Loveland

Honorable Mention

Helen Ostrowski 8th grade
Who Wrote It? How Genre Affects Students' Ability to Detect AI
 Monument Academy Monument

Honorable Mention

Anabelle Pettinger 8th grade
Technology with the Youth
 Vilas Schools Vilas

Senior Division Behavioral & Social Sciences

First Place

Zachary Gao 11th grade
Impacts of Political Views on Donations to Refugees with Different Linguistic Framing
 Cherry Creek High School Greenwood Village

Second Place

Ella Blakeley 11th grade
Perceptions Across Generations: Analyzing Age-Related Differences in Distinguishing Between AI and Real Facial Stimuli
 Palmer Ridge High School Monument

Third Place

Vanya Lavu 12th grade
Developing a Novel Enzyme Therapy for Improving GAD and Gastrointestinal Health in Rats
 The Classical Academy Colorado Springs

Honorable Mention

Jerry Lou 11th grade
The Effects of Cartoons on Developing Healthy Eating Habits in Children
 Stargate Charter School Thornton

Junior Division Biomedical & Health Sciences

First Place

Mateo Guerrero 8th grade
Fruit Flies Attraction to Different Doughs to Conclude Health Inferences
 Summit Charter Middle School Boulder

Second Place

Vedanth Raju 7th grade
A Novel Plant-Based Topical Drug "Curcaza+" to Help Treat Diabetic Foot Ulcers/Infections and Help Reduce Antimicrobial Resistance
 Aurora Quest K-8 School Aurora

Third Place

Travis Wise 8th grade
Analysis of Glucose Levels in Food to Aid in Hypoglycemic Recovery
 Liberty School Joes

Honorable Mention

Elizabeth Lauren George 8th grade
Which Glucose Monitor Is Most Accurate?
 West Grand Middle School Kremmling

Honorable Mention

Elsa Ciembronowicz 7th grade
Original Kitchen Insulin
 Vallis Cymbia Academiaie Homeschool Frederick

Senior Division Biomedical & Health Sciences

First Place

Jenny Xu 11th grade
 Amanda Zou 11th grade
Disrupting PCSK9 and ANGPTL3 Genes with CRISPR for Hypercholesterolemia Treatment
 Fairview High School Boulder

Second Place

Roa Lee 11th grade
MMP-Deactivating Therapeutic Contact Lenses for Corneal Melting
 Mountain Vista High School Highlands Ranch

Third Place

Saahithi Kasa 11th grade
Up in Smoke: The Effect of Protective Topical Ointment Against Wildfire Particle Penetration
 Cherry Creek High School Greenwood Village

Honorable Mention

Maria Sears 12th grade
Lung Distance Relationship: A Remote Monitoring Device That Tracks Pulmonary Function
 Monte Vista High School Monte Vista

Junior Division Chemistry

First Place

Violet Sandridge 8th grade
Radiation Resilience: Evaluating Photostability in Natural and Synthetic Sunscreens
 Summit Charter Middle School Boulder

Second Place

Kenley Mitchell 7th grade
Light It Before You Bite It!
 Sargent Middle School Monte Vista

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Grand Award Winners

Third Place

Humza Memon 7th grade
From Kitchen to Energy: Leveraging Fermentation Enhancers for Improved Biogas Production
 Crescent View Academy Aurora

Honorable Mention

Jocelyn Schoenfeld 6th grade
Skittles Chromotography
 Genoa-Hugo School Hugo

Honorable Mention

Elizabeth Gerk 7th grade
A World of Water
 Wiggins Middle School Wiggins

Senior Division Chemistry

First Place

Sophia Zhang 11th grade
Natural Eutectogels As a Novel Material for Green Electronic Skin
 Fairview High School Boulder

Second Place

Arnav Venkatesh 10th grade
Enhancing Microbot Functionality Through Single Layered Hydrogels
 Grandview High School Aurora

Third Place

Neha Pesaramelli 11th grade
Measuring Chemical Kinetics in High School Labs
 Peak to Peak Charter School Lafayette

Honorable Mention

Bogar Quezada 10th grade
Desulfurization
 Sierra Grande High School Blanca

Honorable Mention

Jack Griepentrog 9th grade
Baking the Perfect Chocolate Chip Cookie
 SkyView Academy Highlands Ranch

Junior Division Earth & Environmental Sciences

First Place

Cameron Kempisty 8th grade
Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs. PFAS
 Eagleview Middle School Colorado Springs

Second Place

Kendyl Osborn 7th grade
Monarch Butterfly Pitstop
 La Junta Junior High School La Junta

Third Place

Kayla Melby 6th grade
Photosynthesis Through Thick and Thin: Development of a Light Collecting Device to Prevent Winterkill in Ice Covered Lakes
 Yuma Middle School Yuma

Honorable Mention

Ben Zhao 8th grade
Earthquake Asperities Relation to Recurrence
 Summit Charter Middle School Boulder

Honorable Mention

Aylin Melgar Bobadilla 8th grade
 Nayla Gutierrez 8th grade
Helpful Organisms: Using Microorganisms in Eutrophic Bodies of Water
 Wray Jr/Sr High School Wray

Senior Division Earth & Environmental Sciences

First Place

Alex Kugler 12th grade
 Zoe Kugler 12th grade
Comparison of Aurora Activity with Thermosphere Na and Fe (TiNa and TiFe) Layers at McMurdo Station
 Monarch High School Louisville

Second Place

Lauren Erickson 12th grade
The Effect of Fire Mitigation on Avian Biodiversity as Measured Through Bioacoustics
 Evergreen High School Evergreen

Third Place

Emma Bahr 12th grade
Effect of Temperature on Growth of Diatoms Skeletonema costatum and Ditylum brightwellii
 Palmer High School Colorado Springs

Honorable Mention

Hannah Shelton 12th grade
Sediment Signatures: Unveiling the Impact of Sedimentary Deposits on Diatoms Through Lake Bottom Sampling
 Centauri High School La Jara

Junior Division Energy

First Place

Ingram Olson 6th grade
A Better Solar Panel: Can Coating Solar Panels Improve Their Efficiency?
 Telluride Intermediate School Telluride

Second Place

Bianca Buczowski 8th grade
Should Solar Panels Track the Sun?
 Monument Academy Monument

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Grand Award Winners

Third Place

Connor Stone	7th grade
Evelyn Lapp	8th grade
<i>Insulation Investigation</i>	
Brush Middle School	Brush

Honorable Mention

Benjamin Knight	7th grade
<i>Wind Turbine Efficiency: Which Blade Design Works the Best?</i>	
Corwin International Magnet School	Pueblo

Senior Division Energy

First Place

Carson Stone	9th grade
Chase Pollart	10th grade
<i>Water Tower Power - Storing Solar Energy with an Elevated Pumped Storage Hydropower System</i>	
Brush High School	Brush

Junior Division Engineering

First Place

Omar Manshad	8th grade
<i>Building a Safe Robotic Arm for Table-Top Interactions</i>	
Crescent View Academy	Aurora

Second Place

Ella Music	8th grade
<i>A Haptic Guidance System for Vissually Impaired Sport Climbers</i>	
Summit Charter Middle School	Boulder

Third Place

Evan Gopinath	7th grade
<i>The Pumpkin Carver</i>	
Nevin Platt Middle School	Boulder

Honorable Mention

Maci Widger	8th grade
<i>Under Pressure</i>	
Sargent Middle School	Monte Vista

Honorable Mention

Cooper Bolyard	8th grade
<i>Under Pressure</i>	
Wiggins Middle School	Wiggins

Senior Division Engineering

First Place

Cuinn Archer	9th grade
<i>Smart Wheels: An RC Car That Measures and Analyzes Shapes</i>	
Mancos High School	Mancos

Second Place

Mateo Feit	9th grade
<i>The PetProfiler: Machine Learning and Mechanics for a Smart Doggy Door</i>	
Fairview High School	Boulder

Third Place

Devon Mahorney	9th grade
<i>Road Ready</i>	
West Grand High School	Kremmling

Honorable Mention

Jude Chen	10th grade
<i>Development of Digital Correlation Software to Evaluate Mechanical Properties of 3D-Printed Polymers for Sustainable Material Innovation</i>	
Fairview High School	Boulder

Junior Division Environmental Engineering

First Place

Paisley Anderson	8th grade
<i>Mineral Mining Monsters: Time Will Tail</i>	
Creede Schools	Creede

Second Place

Lyndee Thomson	7th grade
Ryder Pryor	7th grade
<i>Waters' Ways</i>	
West Grand Middle School	Kremmling

Third Place

Payal Gopinath	7th grade
<i>Plant Growing Conditions</i>	
Nevin Platt Middle School	Boulder

Honorable Mention

Jainil Parikh	6th grade
<i>Harnessing Waste Powering Future</i>	
Challenger Middle School	Colorado Springs

Honorable Mention

Solomon Charlton-Jones	7th grade
<i>The Poly Cracker 2.0: A Size and Weight Controlled Birdhouse</i>	
Flagstaff Academy Charter School	Longmont

Senior Division Environmental Engineering

First Place

Natalie Muro	11th grade
<i>A Sustainable Cyanobacteria Mitigation Method for Freshwater Ecosystems in the Rocky Mountain Region</i>	
Palmer High School	Colorado Springs

Second Place

Siddhi Singh	11th grade
<i>A Low-Cost, Onboard Animal Detection System to Mitigate Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions</i>	
STEM School	Highlands Ranch

Third Place

Naomi Kruse	11th grade
<i>Paper for the Planet 2: Kickstarting Microbial Succession Following California Wildfires</i>	
Schullandheim Homeschool	Colorado Springs

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Grand Award Winners

Junior Division Mathematics & Computer Sciences

First Place

Wensen Fang 8th grade
Blazing Bright: Uncovering the Truth Behind Wildfires in Colorado via Machine Learning
 Summit Charter Middle School Boulder

Second Place

Bode Monahan 8th grade
Frequency Chaos: Coding a Wi-Fi Interrupter for Tactical Use
 Liberty School Joes

Third Place

Madeleine Hahn 6th grade
Is AI Racist or Sexist?
 Flagstaff Academy Charter School Longmont

Honorable Mention

Oliver Ciembronowicz 7th grade
Are They Listening To Us?
 Vallis Cymbia Academaie Homeschool Frederick

Senior Division Mathematics & Computer Sciences

First Place

Amy Zhang 10th grade
AI Guides, Vision-Impaired Act: Safety-Aware Actionable Guidance Via Vision-Language Models
 Lakewood High School Lakewood

Second Place

Devang Pandey 12th grade
Enhancing Brain Tumor Classification with Synthetic Data Via Gen Models and Hybrid Training
 Fairview High School Boulder

Third Place

Ayush Vispute 10th grade
Protein Flow v2: Biocomputational Analysis of Metabolic Pathways to Discover New Carbon Capturing Bacteria
 Rampart High School Colorado Springs

Honorable Mention

Aishwarya Kamineni 10th grade
Optimization of Non-Invasive Pneumonia Prediction Using Novel Machine Learning Algorithms
 Grandview High School Aurora

Honorable Mention

Tanush Shekhar 11th grade
 Jack Cerullo 12th grade
Revolutionizing CryoEt: Novel Simulation Techniques for ML-Based Tomograph Labeling
 Peak to Peak Charter School Lafayette

Junior Division Micro & Molecular Biology

First Place

Julia Muro 8th grade
Modified Atmosphere Packaging Strategies for Prolonged Organic Strawberry Health
 North Middle School Colorado Springs

Second Place

Paisley Wiersma 8th grade
What's in That Water?
 Genoa-Hugo School Hugo

Third Place

Anmoldeep Singh Gill 7th grade
Antibiotic Resistance in Escherichia coli
 Lamar Middle School Lamar

Honorable Mention

Eli Harrison 7th grade
 Jagadish White 7th grade
The Effect of Pet Toothpaste on the Canine Oral
 Home School Erie

Honorable Mention

Grace Cullen 8th grade
Bacteria Buster
 Yuma Middle School Yuma

Honorable Mention

Cash Stone 8th grade
Mold Patrol: How Storage Conditions Affect Mold Growth and Animal Feed
 Genoa-Hugo School Hugo

Senior Division Micro & Molecular Biology

First Place

Serene Park 11th grade
The Effect of Glyphosate on Bacillus subtilis Biofilm
 Cherry Creek High School Greenwood Village

Second Place

Cami Wolkow 11th grade
Genetically Enhancing Fungi to Bioremediate Tetracycline
 Palmer High School Colorado Springs

Third Place

Ria Rajaseckharan 10th grade
Glycopeptidolipids: A New Diagnostic Tool for COPD and Cystic Fibrosis Patients Infected with Non-Tuberculous Mycobacteria
 Fossil Ridge High School Fort Collins

Honorable Mention

Maxwell Minson 12th grade
Determining the Distribution of Red Fluorescent Protein Marked Agrobacterium Tumefaciens within Different Species of Legumes
 Broomfield High School Broomfield

2025 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

Grand Award Winners

Honorable Mention

Sreyanth Saipavan Alla 11th grade
BactiScan: A Deep Convolutional Neural Network for Tracking Shigella flexneri Infection
 Rock Canyon High School Castle Pines

Junior Division Physics & Astronomy

First Place

Lane Mattive 8th grade
Can I Get a Lift?
 Sargent Middle School Monte Vista

Second Place

Vivian Bozek 7th grade
Light It Up and Launch It
 St. Joseph Catholic School Fort Collins

Third Place

Elly Entz 7th grade
Don't Interfere with Snow Gear
 Sargent Middle School Monte Vista

Honorable Mention

Ryker Monahan 6th grade
The Heat Is On: Testing Heat Resistant Materials
 Liberty School Joes

Senior Division Physics & Astronomy

First Place

Tristan Cao 11th grade
Emergent Quantum Inductance in Chiral Orbital Current State
 Stargate Charter School Thornton

Second Place

Helen Wan 10th grade
Time-Sensitive Medicine Dissolution in a Microgravity Environment Emulated by Acoustic Levitation
 Pine Creek High School Colorado Springs

Third Place

Julia Gao 10th grade
Toward Discovery of the Sterile Neutrino: Deep Learning Muon Neutrino Reconstruction at ICARUS
 Fairview High School Boulder

Honorable Mention

Lillian Prime 12th grade
Analysis and Comparison of Gravitational Wave Event Parameters
 Palmer High School Colorado

Junior Division Plant Sciences

First Place

Lola Sondrol 8th grade
Do Endophytes Affect the Growth of Lolium perenne?
 Monte Vista Online Academy Monte Vista

Second Place

Elaina Consaul 8th grade
Salinity Solution: A Study of How the Salinity in Water Affects Plant Growth
 Sargent Middle School Monte Vista

Third Place

Thomas D'Attilo 7th grade
New Zealand Mud Snails and How Do We Get Rid of Them?
 Nevin Platt Middle School Boulder

Honorable Mention

Caprise Priestley 6th grade
Electroculture Gardening and How It Affects Plants
 Mancos Middle School Mancos

Honorable Mention

Grayson Kassib 8th grade
Aquaponics vs. Aeroponics
 West Grand Middle School Kremmling

Senior Division Plant Sciences

First Place

Laila Waldron 12th grade
Differences in Floral Quality and Ecosystem Health Between Burn Areas and Logged Clear Cuts
 Nederland High School Nederland

Second Place

Kaycee Clark 9th grade
Cheater Cheater Rangeland Eater: A Study on Mitigating the Spread of Downy Brome Using Pseudomonas Fluoresens D7 and ACK55
 Wray Jr/Sr High School Wray

Third Place

Janet Ngomba Bajikijay 12th grade
 Mayssan Salim 12th grade
 Nayibe Burciaga Buhaya 12th grade
The Effect of Nanoparticles on Plant Growth
 Lotus School for Excellence Aurora

Honorable Mention

Om Vegesna 10th grade
Combating Root-Knot (Meloidogyne spp.) and Fusarium oxysporum with Stabilized Allicin and siRNA Constructs
 Fairview High School Boulder

Honorable Mention

Siena Parr 12th grade
Absorption of Glyphosate-Based Herbicide in Zea Mays Plants Utilizing Zinc-Oxide Nanoparticles
 Dolores High School Dolores