

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

Sub-Category: **Display**

Category: **Academic**

## ***Display Award - Honorable Mention***

Sponsored By: **San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair**

certificate

***Amalia Roybal***

Sierra Grande Elementary School

*Can you Grow Plants Without Soil*

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## ***Display Award - First Place***

Sponsored By: **O&V Printing**

certificate, \$65

***Gage Henderson***

Sargent Elementary School

*Chute Tunes: Can Music Keep Cattle Calm?*

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## ***Display Award - Honorable Mention***

Sponsored By: **San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair**

certificate

***Daxon Peddy***

Home School Middle School

*From Grain to Glucose: Fresh vs. Store Bought Flour and Its Affect on Blood Sugar*

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## ***Display Award - First Place***

Sponsored By: **1st SouthWest Bank**

certificate, \$70

***Sydney Montague***

Centauri Middle School

*Medicine War*

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## ***Display Award - Honorable Mention***

Sponsored By: **San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair**

certificate

***Damian Sanchez***

Justice and Heritage Academy High School

*How Much Sugar is in Pop?*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Display Award - First Place***

**Sponsored By:** Rio Grande Water Conservation District

certificate, \$75

***Josiah Houser***

Sargent High School

*Bin It to Win It: A Study of Recycling*

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**Category:** Academic

## ***Originality Award***

**Sponsored By:** Dr. Larry Sveum

certificate, \$65

***Levi Brittain***

Creede Elementary School

*Can Brine Shrimp Detect Water Quality?*

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## ***Originality Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Water Conservancy District

certificate, \$70

***Alex Dicker***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Reducing Human Pesticide Exposure With Technology*

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## ***Originality Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Federal Bank

certificate, \$75

***Lucy Brittain***

Creede High School

*Can They Coexist? The Steaks Have Never Been Higher*

---

**Category:** Academic

## ***Overall Award***

**Sponsored By:** Lucero Family Foundation

certificate, \$75

***Gage Henderson***

Sargent Elementary School

*Chute Tunes: Can Music Keep Cattle Calm?*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Overall Award

Sponsored By: Louis Bacon's Trinchera Blanca Foundation

certificatte, \$95

***Kenley Mitchell***

Sargent Middle School

*Small Plastics Big Problems!*

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## Overall Award

Sponsored By: Society for Science

certificate, \$120

***Logan Futrell***

Monte Vista High School

*The Infusion Solution - Designing a multifunction medical pump to treat hyper/hypoglycemia*

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**Category: Academic**

## Paper Award - Honorable Mention

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate

***Seth Miller***

***Bowen Mortensen***

Sanford Elementary School

*Can You Spot the Bot?*

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## Paper Award - First Place

Sponsored By: Lucy Adams

certificate, \$65

***Taela Jaminet***

***Kennasyn Johnson***

Sanford Elementary School

*From Dirty to Dazzling!*

---

## Paper Award - Honorable Mention

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate

***Sydney Montague***

Centauri Middle School

*Medicine War*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Paper Award - Honorable Mention***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate

***Titus Osmon***

Sargent Middle School

*From Bench To Bite*

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## ***Paper Award - First Place***

Sponsored By: Mrs. Patricia Kaiser

certificate, \$70

***Callie Griffin***

Sargent Middle School

*Feel the Game: Basketball for the Blind*

---

## ***Paper Award - Honorable Mention***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate

***Lola Sondrol***

Monte Vista High School

*Sustainable Cleanup: Mycoremediation as a Green Alternative for Heavy Metal Removal*

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## ***Paper Award - First Place***

Sponsored By: Lois Kirkham

certificate, \$75

***Jaelie Jaminet***

Sanford High School

*Observing pH Levels to Predict Parturition in Mares*

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Sub-Category: **State**

Category: **CSEF**

## ***Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Abigail Adams***

***Julia Leary***

Alamosa High School

*Party Lines and Blind Spots: An Examination of the Introspection Illusion*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

**Lydia Boyd**

Monte Vista High School

*ADHD in the San Luis Valley - Phase II*

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## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

**Emilio Ortiz**

Monte Vista High School

*Roots to Resilience: Testing the Effects of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi (AMF) on Different Potato Cultivars Under Simulated Drought Conditions.*

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## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

**Liam Griffin**

Sargent High School

*Comparative Thermodynamic Analysis of Conventional and Alternative Deicers*

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## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

**Will Walker**

Monte Vista High School

*Modeling the Impacts of Flow Rate on Riparian Beach Stability*

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## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

**Logan Futrell**

Monte Vista High School

*The Infusion Solution - Designing a multifunction medical pump to treat hyper/hypoglycemia*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

### Addison Mondragon

Monte Vista High School

*Sink or Swim II: Analyzing Impacts of River Conservation Methods on Each Other While Building River Conservation Projects*

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

### Lola Sondrol

Monte Vista High School

*Sustainable Cleanup: Mycoremediation as a Green Alternative for Heavy Metal Removal*

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

### Paisley Anderson

Creede High School

*The Rusting Creek: The Impact of Mining Contamination on Riparian Vegetation in West Willow Creek*

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

### Tanner Houser

Sargent High School

*Demonstrating a Potential Method for Black Hole Information Recovery via a Simulated Hawking Radiation Model*

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

### Jaelie Jaminet

Sanford High School

*Observing pH Levels to Predict Parturition in Mares*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Khaleesi Reynolds***

Sargent Middle School

*Can't Resist This*

---

## ***Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Cason Mattive***

Sargent Middle School

*Power Of The Prop*

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## ***Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Alex Dicker***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Reducing Human Pesticide Exposure With Technology*

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## ***Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Clara Miller***

Sanford Middle School

*Coop to Crop: How Chicken's Affect the Soil*

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## ***Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Jett Smith***

Centauri Middle School

*Damming Evidence*

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## ***Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Callie Griffin***

Sargent Middle School

*Feel the Game: Basketball for the Blind*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Paisley Vandiver***

Sargent Middle School

*Lock in Bro: Testing Which Soil Holds Fertilizer the Best*

---

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Kenley Mitchell***

Sargent Middle School

*Small Plastics Big Problems!*

---

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Sydney Montague***

Centauri Middle School

*Medicine War*

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## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Talon Hodgson***

Sargent Middle School

*Nature's Filters*

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## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

***Kynzleigh Hanel***

Sargent Middle School

*Barnyard Bacteria: Testing for Bacteria in Goat Bedding*

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# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

**Daxon Peddy**

Home School Middle School

*From Grain to Glucose: Fresh vs. Store Bought Flour and Its Affect on Blood Sugar*

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## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

**JuliAnna Medina**

Monte Vista Middle School

*Insecurities? Why?- Part 2*

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## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to compete in the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair

**Jaycee Francis**

Sargent Middle School

*Worm Wars*

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Sub-Category: **International**

Category: **ISEF**

## International Science & Engineering Fair Award - Student Observer Award

Sponsored By: Society for Science

certificate

**Kenley Mitchell**

Sargent Middle School

*Small Plastics Big Problems!*

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## International Science & Engineering Fair Award - Alternate

Sponsored By: Society for Science

certificate, alternate to compete in the Regeneron ISEF this May

**Abigail Adams**

**Julia Leary**

Alamosa High School

*Party Lines and Blind Spots: An Examination of the Introspection Illusion*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***International Science & Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** Society for Science

certificate, Regeneron ISEF Certificate, trip to compete in the Regeneron ISEF this May

***Tanner Houser***

Sargent High School

*Demonstrating a Potential Method for Black Hole Information Recovery via a Simulated Hawking Radiation Model*

## ***International Science & Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** Society for Science

certificate, Regeneron ISEF Certificate, trip to compete in the Regeneron ISEF this May

***Logan Futrell***

Monte Vista High School

*The Infusion Solution - Designing a multifunction medical pump to treat hyper/hypoglycemia*

**Sub-Category:** Agricultural

**Category:** Local Special

## ***Elementary School Agricultural Award***

**Sponsored By:** KW Farms

certificate, \$15

***Gage Henderson***

Sargent Elementary School

*Chute Tunes: Can Music Keep Cattle Calm?*

## ***Middle School Agricultural Award***

**Sponsored By:** Central Pump Co.

certificate, \$25

***Clara Miller***

Sanford Middle School

*Coop to Crop: How Chicken's Affect the Soil*

## ***High School Agricultural Award***

**Sponsored By:** Wenta Nip & Sanitizing

certificate, \$50

***Emilio Ortiz***

Monte Vista High School

*Roots to Resilience: Testing the Effects of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi (AMF) on Different Potato Cultivars Under Simulated Drought Conditions.*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

Category: Local Special

## ***Most Innovative Behavioral project***

Sponsored By: Monte Vista COOP

certificate, \$40

***Abigail Adams***

***Julia Leary***

Alamosa High School

*Party Lines and Blind Spots: An Examination of the Introspection Illusion*

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## ***Most Innovative Behavioral project***

Sponsored By: Gunbarrel Station

certificate, \$30

***Seth Miller***

***Bowen Mortensen***

Sanford Elementary School

*Can You Spot the Bot?*

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## ***Most Innovative Behavioral project***

Sponsored By: Pargin Farms

certificate, \$30

***JuliAnna Medina***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Insecurities? Why?- Part 2*

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Category: Local Special

## ***Middle School Computer Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$75

***Alex Dicker***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Reducing Human Pesticide Exposure With Technology*

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## ***High School Computer Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$150

***Josiah Houser***

Sargent High School

*Bin It to Win It: A Study of Recycling*

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Category: Local Special

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Center Soil & Water Conservation District Award

Sponsored By: Center Conservation District

certificate \$25

**Autumn Prislinger**

Mountain Valley Elementary School

*Hydroponic Basil*

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## Center Soil & Water Conservation District Award

Sponsored By: Center Conservation District

certificate, \$50

**Kaydence Shawcroft**

Manassa Elementary School

*It's All About Erosion*

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## Center Soil & Water Conservation District Award

Sponsored By: Center Conservation District

certificate \$30

**Jaylah James**

Sierra Grande Middle School

*Lets Talk About Drought*

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## Center Soil & Water Conservation District Award

Sponsored By: Center Conservation District

certificate \$50

**Eva Stewart**

Justice and Heritage Academy Middle School

*Environmental Restoration*

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## Center Soil & Water Conservation District Award

Sponsored By: Center Conservation District

certificate \$35

**Will Walker**

Monte Vista High School

*Modeling the Impacts of Flow Rate on Riparian Beach Stability*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Center Soil & Water Conservation District Award***

Sponsored By: Center Conservation District

certificate \$65

***Addison Mondragon***

Monte Vista High School

*Sink or Swim II: Analyzing Impacts of River Conservation Methods on Each Other While Building River Conservation Projects*

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Category: Local Special

## ***Outstanding Conservation Innovation Award***

Sponsored By: Trinchera Ranch

certificate and \$25

***Amalia Roybal***

Sierra Grande Elementary School

*Can you Grow Plants Without Soil*

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## ***Outstanding Conservation Innovation Award***

Sponsored By: Trinchera Ranch

certificate and \$50

***Paisley Vandiver***

Sargent Middle School

*Lock in Bro: Testing Which Soil Holds Fertilizer the Best*

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## ***Outstanding Conservation Innovation Award***

Sponsored By: Trinchera Ranch

certificate and \$50

***Addison Mondragon***

Monte Vista High School

*Sink or Swim II: Analyzing Impacts of River Conservation Methods on Each Other While Building River Conservation Projects*

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Category: Local Special

## ***Mosca, Hooper Soil Conservation District Award***

Sponsored By: Mosca-Hooper Conservation District

certificate, \$25

***Troy Henderson***

Centauri Middle School

*Fast Flames: The Race to Extinguish*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Mosca, Hooper Soil Conservation District Award***

**Sponsored By:** Mosca-Hooper Conservation District

certificate, \$25

***Logan Hernandez***

Monte Vista High School

*Buds for our Buds*

**Category:** Local Special

## ***Rio Grande Watershed Conservation & Education Initiative Award***

**Sponsored By:** Rio Grande Watershed Conservation & Education Inc. (RGWCEI)

certificate \$50

***Jaylah James***

Sierra Grande Middle School

*Lets Talk About Drought*

## ***Rio Grande Watershed Conservation & Education Initiative Award***

**Sponsored By:** Rio Grande Watershed Conservation & Education Inc. (RGWCEI)

certificate \$50

***Paisley Anderson***

Creede High School

*The Rusting Creek: The Impact of Mining Contamination on Riparian Vegetation in West Willow Creek*

**Category:** Local Special

## ***Rio Grande Soil & Water Conservation District Award***

**Sponsored By:** Rio Grande Conservation District

certificate, \$25

***Kaydence Shawcroft***

Manassa Elementary School

*It's All About Erosion*

## ***Rio Grande Soil & Water Conservation District Award***

**Sponsored By:** Rio Grande Conservation District

certificate, \$25

***Paisley Vandiver***

Sargent Middle School

*Lock in Bro: Testing Which Soil Holds Fertilizer the Best*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Rio Grande Soil & Water Conservation District Award***

**Sponsored By:** Rio Grande Conservation District

certificate, \$25

***Lucy Brittain***

Creede High School

*Can They Coexist? The Steaks Have Never Been Higher*

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**Category:** Local Special

## ***Soil & Water Conservation Society of America Award***

**Sponsored By:** Colorado Chapter Soil and Water Conservation

certificate, \$20

***Talon Hodgson***

Sargent Middle School

*Nature's Filters*

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## ***Soil & Water Conservation Society of America Award***

**Sponsored By:** Colorado Chapter Soil and Water Conservation

certificate, \$30

***Eva Stewart***

Justice and Heritage Academy Middle School

*Environmental Restoration*

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## ***Soil & Water Conservation Society of America Award***

**Sponsored By:** Colorado Chapter Soil and Water Conservation

certificate, \$20

***Will Walker***

Monte Vista High School

*Modeling the Impacts of Flow Rate on Riparian Beach Stability*

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## ***Soil & Water Conservation Society of America Award***

**Sponsored By:** Colorado Chapter Soil and Water Conservation

certificate, \$30

***Addison Mondragon***

Monte Vista High School

*Sink or Swim II: Analyzing Impacts of River Conservation Methods on Each Other While Building River Conservation Projects*

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**Category:** Local Special

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Diabetes Health Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Health

certificate, \$25

### ***Daxon Peddy***

Home School Middle School

*From Grain to Glucose: Fresh vs. Store Bought Flour and Its Affect on Blood Sugar*

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## ***Diabetes Health Award***

**Sponsored By:** Jody and Floyd Oaks

certificate, \$25

### ***Mila Castro***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Candy Fake?*

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## ***Diabetes Health Award***

**Sponsored By:** Blanca Peak Dental Center

certificate, \$50

### ***Logan Futrell***

Monte Vista High School

*The Infusion Solution - Designing a multifunction medical pump to treat hyper/hypoglycemia*

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**Category:** Local Special

## ***Friends of the Dunes Award***

**Sponsored By:** Friends of the Dunes

certificate, \$25

### ***Evelyn Wisniewski***

La Jara Elementary School

*Where Did All the Stars Go?*

---

## ***Friends of the Dunes Award***

**Sponsored By:** Friends of the Dunes

certificate, \$50

### ***Paisley Vandiver***

Sargent Middle School

*Lock in Bro: Testing Which Soil Holds Fertilizer the Best*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Friends of the Dunes Award***

**Sponsored By:** Friends of the Dunes

certificate, \$100

### ***Will Walker***

Monte Vista High School

*Modeling the Impacts of Flow Rate on Riparian Beach Stability*

**Category:** Local Special

## ***The Robert Kirkham Geology Award***

**Sponsored By:** Lois Kirkham

Certificate, \$125

### ***Kaydence Shawcroft***

Manassa Elementary School

*It's All About Erosion*

## ***The Robert Kirkham Geology Award***

**Sponsored By:** Lois Kirkham

Certificate, \$125

### ***Elijah Brown***

Sargent Middle School

*The Elements Beneath Us*

**Category:** Local Special

## ***SLV Ecosystem Council Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Ecosystem Council

Certificate and \$25

### ***Talon Hodgson***

Sargent Middle School

*Nature's Filters*

## ***SLV Ecosystem Council Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Ecosystem Council

certificate and \$25

### ***Alexis Gonzales***

Monte Vista High School

*Well? What's in your well?*

**Category:** Local Special

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Exercise Health Award***

Sponsored By: Pence Pediatrics PC

certificate, \$50

***Kelton Knorr***

Sargent Middle School

*Charged up*

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Category: Local Special

## ***Middle School Lifestyle Improvement Award***

Sponsored By: Kristi Mountain Sports

certificate, \$25

***Daxon Peddy***

Home School Middle School

*From Grain to Glucose: Fresh vs. Store Bought Flour and Its Affect on Blood Sugar*

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Category: Local Special

## ***SLVRSF Logo Contest Award - First Place***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$50

***Lola Sondrol***

Monte Vista High School

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Category: Local Special

## ***Lucero Family Foundation Biomedical Award in honor of Fern Lucero***

Sponsored By: Lucero Family Foundation

certificate, \$200

***Addie Aldridge***

Sargent High School

*Oxygen interrupted : How Dapsone Can Cause Shortness of Breath*

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## ***Lucero Family Foundation Earth & Space Sciences Award in honor of Lawrence Luc***

Sponsored By: Lucero Family Foundation

certificate, \$200

***Will Walker***

Monte Vista High School

*Modeling the Impacts of Flow Rate on Riparian Beach Stability*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Lucero Family Foundation Botany Award***

**Sponsored By:** Lucero Family Foundation

certificate, \$200

***Emilio Ortiz***

Monte Vista High School

*Roots to Resilience: Testing the Effects of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi (AMF) on Different Potato Cultivars Under Simulated Drought Conditions.*

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**Category:** Local Special

## ***SLV STEAM Shop Makerspace Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV STEAM Shop Makerspace

certificate, \$200

***Lola Sondrol***

Monte Vista High School

*Sustainable Cleanup: Mycoremediation as a Green Alternative for Heavy Metal Removal*

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## ***SLV STEAM Shop Makerspace Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV STEAM Shop Makerspace

certificate, \$200

***Addison Mondragon***

Monte Vista High School

*Sink or Swim II: Analyzing Impacts of River Conservation Methods on Each Other While Building River Conservation Projects*

---

**Category:** Local Special

## ***SLV Regional Medical Center Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Health

certificate, \$25

***Layla Wright***

La Jara Elementary School

*Artificial Dye vs Natural Dye: Can you tell the difference?*

---

## ***SLV Regional Medical Center Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Health

certificate, \$25

***Sydney Montague***

Centauri Middle School

*Medicine War*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***SLV Regional Medical Center Award***

Sponsored By: SLV Health

certificate, \$50

***Addie Aldridge***

Sargent High School

*Oxygen interrupted : How Dapsone Can Cause Shortness of Breath*

---

Category: Local Special

## ***Dr. Ed Adams Best in Math and Computer Science Award***

Sponsored By: Lucy Adams

certificate, \$250

***Josiah Houser***

Sargent High School

*Bin It to Win It: A Study of Recycling*

---

Category: Local Special

## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

Sponsored By: Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

***Jaycee Francis***

Sargent Middle School

*Worm Wars*

---

## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

Sponsored By: Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

***Armando Ruybal***

Sargent Middle School

*"Shine On! The Battle of Teeth Whiteners"*

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## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

Sponsored By: Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

***Paisley Vandiver***

Sargent Middle School

*Lock in Bro: Testing Which Soil Holds Fertilizer the Best*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

Sponsored By: Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

### ***Callie Griffin***

Sargent Middle School

*Feel the Game: Basketball for the Blind*

---

## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

Sponsored By: Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

### ***Khaleesi Reynolds***

Sargent Middle School

*Can't Resist This*

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## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

Sponsored By: Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

### ***Zoey Barlow***

Sargent Middle School

*Snooze or Lose!*

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## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

Sponsored By: Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

### ***Talon Hodgson***

Sargent Middle School

*Nature's Filters*

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## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

Sponsored By: Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

### ***Kenley Mitchell***

Sargent Middle School

*Small Plastics Big Problems!*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

**Sponsored By:** Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$50

### ***Addie Aldridge***

Sargent High School

*Oxygen interrupted : How Dapsone Can Cause Shortness of Breath*

---

## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

**Sponsored By:** Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$50

### ***Sydney Curtis***

Sargent High School

*Volumetric Analysis of Cast-Off Patterns for Physical Profiling*

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## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

**Sponsored By:** Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

### ***Izzy Boyd***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Baking Bread*

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## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

**Sponsored By:** Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$50

### ***Tabias Pacheco***

Monte Vista High School

*Ain't Nothing Like A Leg*

---

## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

**Sponsored By:** Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$50

### ***April Perez***

Monte Vista High School

*I Tried, But Then Gave Up: Learned Helplessness in Students*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Jason Romero Memorial Award***

**Sponsored By:** Jason Romero Memorial

certificate, \$25

***Elizabeth Dean***

***Ori McDonald***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Compressed Air Engine to the Test*

---

**Category:** Local Special

## ***Novice Newton Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Avigail Pfohl***

Mountain Valley Elementary School

*Building and Testing Paper Airplanes*

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## ***Novice Newton Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Rilee Fresquez***

Bill Metz Elementary School

*Prosthetic Hand*

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## ***Novice Newton Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Bryson Lukondi***

Sierra Grande Elementary School

*Bubbly Burst*

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## ***Novice Newton Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Adonia Garza***

Bill Metz Elementary School

*BRRRR It's Cold!*

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# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Novice Newton Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Alizae Berry***

Justice and Heritage Academy Elementary

*Infinity Mirror*

---

## ***Novice Newton Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Jaxon Wofford***

Bill Metz Elementary School

*Mini Cooking*

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## ***Novice Newton Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Amalia Roybal***

Sierra Grande Elementary School

*Can you Grow Plants Without Soil*

---

## ***Novice Newton Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Keilen Carrell***

Sierra Grande Elementary School

*Leaf me a Melody*

---

## ***Novice Newton Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Phoebe Relyea***

Alamosa High School

*Sleep Light? Sleep Right*

---

## ***Novice Newton Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Bynley Caldon***

***Lexi Jarvies***

Sanford Elementary School

*Confusion: Medicine or Candy?*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

Category: Local Special

## ***Nutrition Award***

Sponsored By: Arby's

certificate, \$35

***Daxon Peddy***

Home School Middle School

*From Grain to Glucose: Fresh vs. Store Bought Flour and Its Affect on Blood Sugar*

---

## ***Nutrition Award***

Sponsored By: IHOP

certificate, \$35

***Logan Futrell***

Monte Vista High School

*The Infusion Solution - Designing a multifunction medical pump to treat hyper/hypoglycemia*

---

Category: Local Special

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Seth Miller***

Sanford Elementary School

***Bowen Mortensen***

*Can You Spot the Bot?*

---

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Tahlya Soto***

Bill Metz Elementary School

*Growing Bacteria*

---

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Amalia Roybal***

Sierra Grande Elementary School

*Can you Grow Plants Without Soil*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Mckenzie Stewart***

Justice and Heritage Academy Elementary

*Crystal Candy*

---

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Evelyn Wisniewski***

La Jara Elementary School

*Where Did All the Stars Go?*

---

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Juanito Rael Rodriguez***

Sierra Grande Elementary School

*Walking Cyborg*

---

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Morgan Nicolais***

Upper Rio Grande Elementary School

*How does a tornado move things?*

---

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Mayci Rigodon***

Sierra Grande Elementary School

*Up, up, and Away*

---

## ***Pioneers of Science Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, \$10

***Jacee Bielenberg***

Creede Elementary School

*Great Smells*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

Category: Local Special

## ***Middle School Potato Research Award***

Sponsored By: Colorado Potato Administrative Committee

certificate, \$35

***Mason Price***

Sargent Middle School

*Perfectly Shaped Spuds: A Study of Potato Uniformity*

---

## ***High School Potato Research Award***

Sponsored By: Dr. David and Vonda Holm

certificate, \$50

***Emilio Ortiz***

Monte Vista High School

*Roots to Resilience: Testing the Effects of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi (AMF) on Different Potato Cultivars Under Simulated Drought Conditions.*

---

Category: Local Special

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

Sponsored By: SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Jayir Gonzalez***

Sierra Grande Middle School

*Music in Motion*

---

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

Sponsored By: SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Niela Medina***

Sargent Middle School

*Two Organs, One Problem!*

---

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

Sponsored By: SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Jaylah James***

Sierra Grande Middle School

*Lets Talk About Drought*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Gianna Velasquez***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Slime Edemic*

---

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Taysha Gilleland***

Centauri Middle School

*This is the Last Straw*

---

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Trevor Cook***

Ortega Middle School

*Freezer Vs Heater Concrete Strength Test*

---

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Eva Stewart***

Justice and Heritage Academy Middle School

*Environmental Restoration*

---

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Bostyn Forrester***

Sierra Grande Middle School

*Digital Photo Contest*

---

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Faryn Jackson***

Centauri Middle School

*Catapult vs Probablity*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***SLV Middle School Principal Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Principal Association

Certificate, \$10

***Alyssa Voss***

Sargent Middle School

*Hopping Towards Flavor*

---

**Category:** Local Special

## ***Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Water Conservancy District

certificate, \$50

***Levi Brittain***

Creede Elementary School

*Can Brine Shrimp Detect Water Quality?*

---

## ***Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Water Conservancy District

certificate, \$50

***Jett Smith***

Centauri Middle School

*Damming Evidence*

---

## ***Colorado Rio Grande Restoration Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Water Conservancy District

certificate, \$50

***Will Walker***

Monte Vista High School

*Modeling the Impacts of Flow Rate on Riparian Beach Stability*

---

**Category:** Local Special

## ***SLV Rural Electric Coop Energy Award***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Rural Electric Coop

certificate, \$25

***Nyamiah Derbin***

Bill Metz Elementary School

*Veggie Batteries?*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***SLV Rural Electric Coop Energy Award***

Sponsored By: SLV Rural Electric Coop

certificate, \$50

***Kate Bagwell***

Centauri Middle School

***Olivia Jackson***

*Fruit Vs. Light*

---

## ***SLV Rural Electric Coop Energy Award***

Sponsored By: SLV Rural Electric Coop

certificate, \$75

***Ernesto Ochoa-Marquez***

Monte Vista High School

*Watt the spud?: A study on how environmental-induced stress can affect the electrophysiology of S.Tuberosum.*

---

Category: **Local Special**

## ***American Statistical Association Award***

Sponsored By: Colorado-Wyoming Chapter of the American Statistical Association

certificate, book to be sent later

***JuliAnna Medina***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Insecurities? Why?- Part 2*

---

## ***American Statistical Association Award***

Sponsored By: Colorado-Wyoming Chapter of the American Statistical Association

certificate, book to be sent later

***Lydia Boyd***

Monte Vista High School

*ADHD in the San Luis Valley - Phase II*

---

Category: **Local Special**

## ***Cold Water Resources Award***

Sponsored By: SLV Trout Unlimited

certificate, \$150

***Levi Brittain***

Creede Elementary School

*Can Brine Shrimp Detect Water Quality?*

---

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Cold Water Resources Award***

Sponsored By: SLV Trout Unlimited

certificate, \$150

***Paisley Anderson***

Creede High School

*The Rusting Creek: The Impact of Mining Contamination on Riparian Vegetation in West Willow Creek*

---

Category: **Local Special**

## ***SLV Veterinary Association Award***

Sponsored By: Alpine Veterinary Hospital

certificate, \$50

***Gage Henderson***

Sargent Elementary School

*Chute Tunes: Can Music Keep Cattle Calm?*

---

## ***SLV Veterinary Association Award***

Sponsored By: Alpine Veterinary Hospital

certificate, \$75

***Khaleesi Reynolds***

Sargent Middle School

*Can't Resist This*

---

## ***SLV Veterinary Association Award***

Sponsored By: Alpine Veterinary Hospital

certificate, \$100

***Jaelie Jaminet***

Sanford High School

*Observing pH Levels to Predict Parturition in Mares*

---

Category: **Local Special**

## ***Wildlife & Natural Resources Conservation Award***

Sponsored By: Friends of SLV National Wildlife Refuges

certificate, \$75

***Levi Brittain***

Creede Elementary School

*Can Brine Shrimp Detect Water Quality?*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Wildlife & Natural Resources Conservation Award***

Sponsored By: Friends of SLV National Wildlife Refuges

certificate, \$75

***Clara Miller***

Sanford Middle School

*Coop to Crop: How Chicken's Affect the Soil*

---

## ***Wildlife & Natural Resources Conservation Award***

Sponsored By: Friends of SLV National Wildlife Refuges

certificate, \$75

***Lucy Brittain***

Creede High School

*Can They Coexist? The Steaks Have Never Been Higher*

---

Category: **Local Special**

## ***Elementary Science for Youth Award***

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley STEAM Shop

certificate, \$20

***Kaydence Shawcroft***

Manassa Elementary School

*It's All About Erosion*

---

## ***Elementary Science for Youth Award***

Sponsored By: Pat and Ann Stanford

certificate, \$20

***Elisha Casas***

Bill Metz Elementary School

*Clean Water*

---

Sub-Category: **Air Force**

Category: **Military**

## ***U.S. Air Force***

Sponsored By: U.S. Air Force

certificate, Sling pack, power bank, USB car charger, usb flash drive

***Hugo Sondrol***

Home School Middle School

*Enhancing Banana Bio cardboard Strength with Eggshells*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***U.S. Air Force***

**Sponsored By:** U.S. Air Force

certificate, Sling pack, power bank, USB car charger, usb flash drive

### ***Khaleesi Reynolds***

Sargent Middle School

*Can't Resist This*

---

## ***U.S. Air Force***

**Sponsored By:** U.S. Air Force

certificate, Sling pack, power bank, USB car charger, usb flash drive

### ***Lola Sondrol***

Monte Vista High School

*Sustainable Cleanup: Mycoremediation as a Green Alternative for Heavy Metal Removal*

---

## ***U.S. Air Force***

**Sponsored By:** U.S. Air Force

certificate, Sling pack, power bank, USB car charger, usb flash drive

### ***Madelyn Garberich***

Alamosa High School

*Difficulty and Decidability of NP-Complete Puzzles*

---

**Category:** **Military**

## ***Office of Naval Research Award***

**Sponsored By:** US Navy & US Marine Corps

certificate, medallion

### ***Cason Mattive***

Sargent Middle School

*Power Of The Prop*

---

## ***Office of Naval Research Award***

**Sponsored By:** US Navy & US Marine Corps

certificate, medallion

### ***Daxon Peddy***

Home School Middle School

*From Grain to Glucose: Fresh vs. Store Bought Flour and Its Affect on Blood Sugar*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Office of Naval Research Award

Sponsored By: US Navy & US Marine Corps

certificate, medallion

### *Kynzleigh Hanel*

Sargent Middle School

*Barnyard Bacteria: Testing for Bacteria in Goat Bedding*

---

## Office of Naval Research Award

Sponsored By: US Navy & US Marine Corps

certificate, medallion, online gift card

### *Will Walker*

Monte Vista High School

*Modeling the Impacts of Flow Rate on Riparian Beach Stability*

---

## Office of Naval Research Award

Sponsored By: US Navy & US Marine Corps

certificate, medallion, online gift card

### *Lydia Boyd*

Monte Vista High School

*ADHD in the San Luis Valley - Phase II*

---

Sub-Category: **ASU**

Category: **Scholarships**

## Adams State University Scholarship

Sponsored By: Adams State University

certificate, \$1000 non-renewable scholarship

### *Emilio Ortiz*

Monte Vista High School

*Roots to Resilience: Testing the Effects of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi (AMF) on Different Potato Cultivars Under Simulated Drought Conditions.*

---

## Adams State University Scholarship

Sponsored By: Adams State University

certificate, \$1000 non-renewable scholarship

### *Logan Futrell*

Monte Vista High School

*The Infusion Solution - Designing a multifunction medical pump to treat hyper/hypoglycemia*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Adams State University Scholarship***

**Sponsored By:** Adams State University

certificate, \$1000 non-renewable scholarship

***James Little***

Monte Vista High School

*Flying through Air and Sea: Multi-Terrain Drone*

---

**Category:** Scholarships

## ***Holm Family Scholarship***

**Sponsored By:** Dr. David and Vonda Holm

certificate, \$500 non-renewable scholarship to CSU (student must major in science, engineering

***Ernesto Ochoa-Marquez***

Monte Vista High School

*Watt the spud?: A study on how environmental-induced stress can affect the electrophysiology of S.Tuberosum.*

---

**Category:** Scholarships

## ***Colorado State University Scholarship***

**Sponsored By:** Colorado State University Mechanical Engineering Department & the Walter Scott, Jr School of En

certificate, \$2000.00 Scholarship, to be used in their Junior year of the Mechanical Engineering P

***Logan Futrell***

Monte Vista High School

*The Infusion Solution - Designing a multifunction medical pump to treat hyper/hypoglycemia*

---

## ***Colorado State University Scholarship***

**Sponsored By:** Colorado State University Mechanical Engineering Department & the Walter Scott, Jr School of En

certificate, \$2000.00 Scholarship, to be used in their Junior year of the Mechanical Engineering P

***James Little***

Monte Vista High School

*Flying through Air and Sea: Multi-Terrain Drone*

---

**Category:** Scholarships

## ***Potato Research Internship - Second Alternate***

**Sponsored By:** SLV Research Center (CSU)

certificate, 2nd alternate for a summer internship with the SLV Research Center, up to \$1000

***Micaela Casillas***

Justice and Heritage Academy High School

*What Type of Tea is the Best for Plant Growth?*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Potato Research Internship - First Alternate

Sponsored By: SLV Research Center (CSU)

certificate, 1st alternate for a summer internship with the SLV Research Center, up to \$1000

### Westlea Tipsword

Monte Vista High School

Solar-Powered Enclosed Bug Zapper

---

## Potato Research Internship

Sponsored By: SLV Research Center (CSU)

certificate, paid summer internship with the SLV Research Center, up to \$1000

### Logan Hernandez

Monte Vista High School

Buds for our Buds

---

Sub-Category: **School**

Category: **School**

## Small Elementary School Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

### Sierra Grande Elementary S

Sierra Grande Elementary School

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## Large Elementary School Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

### Bill Metz Elementary

Bill Metz Elementary

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## Small Middle/Junior High School Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

### Sargent Middle School

Sargent Middle School

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# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## Large Middle/Junior High School Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

### *Centauri Middle School*

Centauri Middle School

## Small Senior High School Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

### *Justice and Heritage Acade*

Justice and Heritage Academy High School

## Large Senior High School Award

Sponsored By: San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

### *Monte Vista High School*

Monte Vista High School

Sub-Category: **American Psychological Association**

Category: **Society for Science**

## American Psychological Association Award

Sponsored By: American Psychological Association

### *Lydia Boyd*

Monte Vista High School

*ADHD in the San Luis Valley - Phase II*

Category: **Society for Science**

## Association for Women Geoscientists Award

Sponsored By: Association for Women Geoscientists

### *Paisley Anderson*

Creede High School

*The Rusting Creek: The Impact of Mining Contamination on Riparian Vegetation in West Willow Creek*

Category: **Society for Science**

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Citadel Securities Innovation Prize***

**Sponsored By:** Citadel Securities

certificate, \$100

***Lydia Boyd***

Monte Vista High School

*ADHD in the San Luis Valley - Phase II*

---

## ***Citadel Securities Innovation Prize***

**Sponsored By:** Citadel Securities

certificate, \$100

***JuliAnna Medina***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Insecurities? Why?- Part 2*

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**Category:** Society for Science

## ***Lemelson Foundation Early Inventor Prize***

**Sponsored By:** Lemelson Foundation

certificate, \$100 to be sent at a later date

***Hugo Sondrol***

Home School Middle School

*Enhancing Banana Bio cardboard Strength with Eggshells*

---

**Category:** Society for Science

## ***NASA Earth System Science Award***

**Sponsored By:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration

certificate, letter of congratulations

***Alexis Gonzales***

Monte Vista High School

*Well? What's in your well?*

---

**Category:** Society for Science

## ***Taking the Pulse of the Planet Award***

**Sponsored By:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

certificate, letter of congratulations

***Will Walker***

Monte Vista High School

*Modeling the Impacts of Flow Rate on Riparian Beach Stability*

---

**Category:** Society for Science

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Regeneron Biomedical Science Award***

Sponsored By: **Regeneron**

certificate, \$375 to be sent at a later date

***Addie Aldridge***

Sargent High School

*Oxygen interrupted : How Dapsone Can Cause Shortness of Breath*

---

**Category:** **Society for Science**

## ***Ricoh Sustainable Development Award***

Sponsored By: **Ricoh USA, Inc.**

certificate, letter of congratulations

***Lola Sondrol***

Monte Vista High School

*Sustainable Cleanup: Mycoremediation as a Green Alternative for Heavy Metal Removal*

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**Category:** **Society for Science**

## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

Sponsored By: **Thermo Fisher Scientific**

certificate, Nomination Packet

***JuliAnna Medina***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Insecurities? Why?- Part 2*

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## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

Sponsored By: **Thermo Fisher Scientific**

certificate, Nomination Packet

***Kynzleigh Hanel***

Sargent Middle School

*Barnyard Bacteria: Testing for Bacteria in Goat Bedding*

---

## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

Sponsored By: **Thermo Fisher Scientific**

certificate, Nomination Packet

***Talon Hodgson***

Sargent Middle School

*Nature's Filters*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

**Sponsored By:** Thermo Fisher Scientific

certificate, Nomination Packet

***Kenley Mitchell***

Sargent Middle School

*Small Plastics Big Problems!*

---

## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

**Sponsored By:** Thermo Fisher Scientific

certificate, Nomination Packet

***Lizzie Paulson***

Sargent Middle School

*No Flies In My Fries*

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## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

**Sponsored By:** Thermo Fisher Scientific

certificate, Nomination Packet

***Paisley Vandiver***

Sargent Middle School

*Lock in Bro: Testing Which Soil Holds Fertilizer the Best*

---

## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

**Sponsored By:** Thermo Fisher Scientific

certificate, Nomination Packet

***Callie Griffin***

Sargent Middle School

*Feel the Game: Basketball for the Blind*

---

## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

**Sponsored By:** Thermo Fisher Scientific

certificate, Nomination Packet

***Clara Miller***

Sanford Middle School

*Coop to Crop: How Chicken's Affect the Soil*

---

## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

**Sponsored By:** Thermo Fisher Scientific

certificate, Nomination Packet

***Alex Dicker***

Monte Vista Middle School

*Reducing Human Pesticide Exposure With Technology*

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

**Sponsored By:** Thermo Fisher Scientific

certificate, Nomination Packet

### ***Cason Mattive***

Sargent Middle School

*Power Of The Prop*

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## ***Junior Innovators Challenge Award***

**Sponsored By:** Thermo Fisher Scientific

certificate, Nomination Packet

### ***Khaleesi Reynolds***

Sargent Middle School

*Can't Resist This*

---

**Category:** Society for Science

## ***US Metric Association Award***

**Sponsored By:** US Metric Association

certificate, 1 year membership

### ***Tanner Houser***

Sargent High School

*Demonstrating a Potential Method for Black Hole Information Recovery via a Simulated Hawking Radiation Model*

---

**Category:** Society for Science

## ***Yale Science and Engineering Association Award***

**Sponsored By:** Yale Science & Engineering Association

certificate

### ***Logan Futrell***

Monte Vista High School

*The Infusion Solution - Designing a multifunction medical pump to treat hyper/hypoglycemia*

---

**Sub-Category:** CAST

**Category:** Teacher

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## ***CAST Regional Science Fair Teacher Award***

**Sponsored By:** Colorado Association of Science Teachers

certificate, 1-year membership to CAST

***Mary Queen Ausejo***

Antonito Senior High School

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## ***CAST Regional Science Fair Teacher Award***

**Sponsored By:** Colorado Association of Science Teachers

certificate, 1-year membership to CAST

***Colton Vessels***

Sierra Grande Middle School

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**Category:** **Teacher**

## ***International Science & Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** Society for Science

certificate, Alternate Teacher Observer for the Regeneron ISEF this May

***Jenni Miller***

Sanford Middle School/High School

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## ***International Science & Engineering Fair Award***

**Sponsored By:** Society for Science

certificate, All-expense paid trip to Observe the Regeneron ISEF this May

***Bryan Eubank***

Creede High School

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**Category:** **Teacher**

## ***Sponsor of the Year Award***

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to attend the Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair in May

***Rafe Paulson***

Sargent High School

# 2026 Special Awards Press Release

## *Sponsor of the Year Award*

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to attend the Regenergon International Science & Engineering Fair in May

***Loree' Harvey***

Monte Vista High School

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## *Sponsor of the Year Award*

**Sponsored By:** San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

certificate, trip to attend the Regenergon International Science & Engineering Fair in May

***Terri Paulson***

Sargent Middle School

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