

2026 Special Awards Recipients

2026 Special Awards Recipients		
Alumni Club of MIT		
Alumni club of MIT graduates in the Houston area.		
1st Best Project in Engineering - Junior	Eli Hale	Brookside Intermediate School
Special Award in Engineering - Junior	Sai Sahasra Maram	Quail Valley Middle School
Special Award in Engineering - Junior	Nidhyana Parghi	Collins Intermediate
1st Best Project in Engineering - Senior	Rafael d'Souza	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
Special Award in Engineering - Senior	Simone K	Clements High School
Special Award in Engineering - Senior	Ziyad Gilani	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
Special Award in Engineering - Senior	Elias Zhang	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
Special Award in Engineering - Senior	Saira Merchant	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
Amentum		
<p>Amentum provides engineering and science support services globally, and locally to the NASA Johnson Space Center. We are proud to announce the recipients of the "2026 Amentum Science Explorer Award" for their projects that captured the eyes, interest and admiration of our judges today. All winners will receive a signed certificate and a NASA-themed book. Presenting for Amentum is their Lead Judge and Science Fair Coordinator, Chip Shepherd.</p>		
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Nidhyana Parghi	Collins Intermediate
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Ansh Gupta	McCullough Junior High
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Nessa Cmerek	Westbrook Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Anthony Tovar	BCM Biotech Academy at Rusk - MS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Shanvitha Challarapu	York Junior High
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Sneha Kibey	ACES: Academy for Careers in Engineering and Scien
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Silas Lovett	Friendswood High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Elise Bernadac	Stratford - HS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Jasse Therese Alob	Harmony School of Advancement
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Raheel Mansury	TWCP High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Ngoc Nguyen	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Krishna Harish	Elkins High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Jeshmitha Puligundla	Ball High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Briley Grimm	Clear Falls High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Katherine McDermott	TWHS: The Woodlands High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Meera Kalakkunnath	TWHS: The Woodlands High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Felix Everhard	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	David Liu	Elkins High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Wendi Ning	Clements High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Ojeifo Okhiria	Harmony School of Innovation Katy
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Ria Aggarwal	The Village School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Charlotte Warner	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Milan De Jager	Seabrook Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Maier Imaran	McCullough Junior High
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Nicole palazzi	Seabrook Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Aria Talbot	Brookside Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	NhyiraBa Setorglo	Brookside Intermediate School

Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Oscar Meza-Aguilar	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Armaan Meerasahib	Westbrook Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Sarina Mulepati	Knox Junior High
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Dhruv Mantri	Cypress Ranch - HS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Nihika Sarada	Cypress Ranch - HS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Bella Pham	Cypress Ranch - HS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Katelyn Zahner	Clear Creek High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Leire Vail	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Ella White	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Charly Lemmon	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Taylor Anthony	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Major Roeser	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Samantha Cassady	Clear Lake High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Ivy Walker	Clear Lake High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Shreyan Shah	Clements High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Pavan Patel	Clements High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Esha Dave	The Village School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Rishaan Dave	The Village School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Jairam Susarla	Elkins High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Toyosi Sodeke	Alief Early College
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Zaid Asad	Clear Brook High School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Leila Alboraihi	Harmony School of Innovation Katy
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Kaitlyn Nguyen	Langham Creek - HS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Shri Chada	Chada Homeschool
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Neil Pawar	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Caden Pohlkamp	Brookside Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Sanhita Baggidi	Quail Valley Middle School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Serenity Morrow	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Lourdes Morales	Brookside Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Tram Huynh	SST - Champions College Prep - MS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Aadya Rajesh	Westbrook Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Caroline Erdem	Seabrook Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Alexandra Pruneda	Seabrook Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Devier Wyatt	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Himesh Mallula	PEARLAND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, WEST - MS
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Alexandra Noyes	Westbrook Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Steven Truong	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Aashi Rajasekar	Fort Settlement Middle School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Victoria Sifuentes	Brookside Intermediate School
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Bhavana Thambireddy	Irons Junior High
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Anjali Balne	Irons Junior High
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	David Wong	Knox Junior High
Winner Amentum Science Explorer Award	Guangqi Yue	McCullough Junior High
American Chemical Society - Greater Houston Section		

Established in 1917, the Section serves about 2500 members, consisting of chemists, chemical engineers and professionals in allied fields. The American Chemical Society is recognized as a world leader in fostering science education and research, and promoting public understanding of science. The Greater Houston Section of the American Chemical Society is one of 189 local ACS sections across the nation.		
1st Excellence in Chemical Safety - Junior	Oleksandra Kulikova	O'Donnell MS
1st Excellence in Chemical Safety - Junior	Jintong Mao	O'Donnell MS
1st Excellence in Chemical Safety - Senior	Riya Singhal	Tomball Memorial - HS
American Industrial Hygiene Association Gulf Coast Section		
The American Industrial Hygiene Association Gulf Coast section is a nonprofit organization dedicated to recognizing, evaluating, and controlling workplace factors or stressors that may affect the health and well-being of workers and the surrounding community. We apply the STEM sciences to ensure our friends and loved ones come home safe every day. In support of the sciences, we offer two Senior Division Special Awards honoring excellence in science related to workplace and community health.		
1st Medicine and Health	Timur Gezalov	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
1st Earth and Environmental Sciences	Katelyn Dang	Alief Taylor HS
1st Earth and Environmental Sciences	Elizabeth Nguyen	Alief Taylor HS
2nd Medicine and Health	Vikram Gupta	Friendswood High School
ASIE-American Society of Indian Engineers and Architects		
ASIE's mission is to provide a professional networking platform for engineers and architects of Indian origin across the Greater Houston area and Texas. The organization fosters career advancement, entrepreneurship, and business development through collaboration and knowledge sharing. ASIE also focuses on developing communication and management skills and supports professional growth through continuing education, workshops, field trips, and encouragement of professional licensure.		
1st	Ishaan Kulkarni	McCullough Junior High
2nd	Nidhyana Parghi	Collins Intermediate
1st	Kavin Elangovan	Carnegie Vanguard HS
1st	Arnav Nemade	Carnegie Vanguard HS
2nd	Aditya Mandke	Spring Branch Academic Institute
ASM Houston		
ASM International was founded in 1913 and is now the world's largest association of materials-centric engineers, scientists, technicians, educators, and students. ASM serves as a central resource that gathers the latest applied information and disseminates it back to industry, academia, and government through published content, classes, conferences, and local chapter engagement.		
1st	Derek Jiu	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
2nd	Jairam Susarla	Elkins High School
3rd	Ananya Gupta	Seven Lakes - HS
BabsFoundation		
BabsFoundation inspires, encourages, and supports hardworking, underprivileged elementary and secondary (high) school students by providing information, training, extra lessons, mentoring opportunities, and scholarships—so financial hardship doesn't stand in the way of their education and future success.		
1st Best Overall — Energy and Transportation (EGTR) - Junior	STACY ABIAZIE	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
1st Best Overall — Robotics and Intelligent Machines (ROBO) - Junior	Victoria Sifuentes	Brookside Intermediate School
1st Best Female — Energy and Transportation (EGTR) - Junior	Anaya Tiwari	Quail Valley Middle School
1st STEM Excellence Award - Junior	Steven Truong	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
1st Best Overall — Energy and Transportation (EGTR) - Senior	Claire Zhou	Dulles High School
1st Best Overall — Robotics and Intelligent Machines (ROBO) - Senior	Rayhan Papar	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
1st Best Female — Energy and Transportation (EGTR) - Senior	Leila Alboraihi	Harmony School of Innovation Katy
1st STEM Excellence Award - Senior	Rishabh Bathala	Carnegie Vanguard HS

1st STEM Excellence Award - Senior	Reyansh Arora	Carnegie Vanguard HS
1st STEM Excellence Award - Senior	Sahisnu Adhikari	Carnegie Vanguard HS
Consumer Energy Education Foundation		
The Consumer Energy Education Foundation (CEEF) is a nonprofit dedicated to creating the future energy workforce, one STEM student at a time through hands-on learning. Energy Day is CEEF's signature event, bringing thousands of students and families together for interactive exhibits, experiments, and career exploration that make energy concepts engaging, accessible, and inspiring for the next generation. Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 17, 2026.		
	Tram Huynh	SST - Champions College Prep - MS
	Cayson Wang	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Ashvin Ghanta	The Emery/Weiner School
	Avighna Ghanta	The Emery/Weiner School
	Madeleine Melancon	Carnegie Vanguard HS
	Logan Nagel	Brookside Intermediate School
	Claire Zhou	Dulles High School
	Ansh Gupta	McCullough Junior High
	Sahil Kulkarni	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Adel Sisy	Homeschool
	MANASHWIN NELLURI	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	MANAS TELIKEPALLI	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Reyansh Gupta	Willow Wood - JH
	Luca Chang	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
ECH Engineering Council Houston		
ECH Engineering, Science, and Technology Council of Houston has supported the SEFH since the 1960's. We work together as a group promoting other societies and organizations to bring SEFH Senior Division students to the HMNS as summer research assistants.		
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Cayson Wang	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Mary Sobowale	Hightower High School
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Sivapriya Kannan	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Cera Easterwood	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Shri Chada	Chada Homeschool
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Lauren Jessel	Clear Springs High School
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	John Lezama	Tomball HS
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	David Liu	SpiderSmart Learning Center - Katy
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Victoria Velasquez Anderson	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Claire Zhou	Dulles High School
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Akhil Rajarathnam	Clear Springs High School
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Nilgun Sari	Harmony School of Innovation Katy
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Halid Avsar	Harmony School of Innovation Katy
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Neva Ugur	Harmony School of Innovation Katy
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Arsh Kudariya	Seven Lakes - HS
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Ram Magathala	Cypress Ranch - HS
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Sreejit Mukherjee	Seven Lakes - HS
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Amiya Casperson	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Mikayla Marroquin	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	alix duggan	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof

Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Elise Bernadac	Stratford - HS
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Callie Dai	Clements High School
Finalist HMNS Research Assistant	Sophie Dai	Clements High School
Geophysical Society of Houston		
Formed in 1947, the GSH has become the heart of a Houston-based geophysical community and provides opportunities to interact with colleagues throughout the profession. It is a public foundation and a charitable, tax-exempt organization under 501(c)(3) of the IRS tax codes.		
1st GSH Junior Award	Arina Banerji	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
2nd GSH Junior Award	Xiaoyan Guo	TAYS Junior High - MS
1st GSH Senior Award	Claire Zhou	Dulles High School
2nd GSH Senior Award	David Liu	SpiderSmart Learning Center - Katy
GSH Sponsored HMNS summer intern	David Liu	SpiderSmart Learning Center - Katy
Harris County Medical Society		
Established in 1903, the Harris County Medical Society (HCMS) has grown to become the largest county medical society in the United States. With a membership of more than 15,000 physicians and medical students , it is the professional organization for physicians in Harris County. The Executive Board serves as the governing body of HCMS.		
The Houston Academy of Medicine (HAM) was incorporated by HCMS in February 1915 to establish a medical library. HAM is the scientific and charitable 501(c)(3)		
1st Senior	Thoshika Srinithi Dayalan Gokulakrishnan	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
2nd Senior	Dorine Zolfaghari Hesari	Clements High School
2nd Senior	Aylin Korkmaz	Clements High School
2nd Senior	Nikhil Chowdhary	Clements High School
3rd Senior	Ahaan Thota	Dulles High School
3rd Senior	Aarav Mehta	Dulles High School
3rd Senior	Aryan Ganglani	Dulles High School
4th Senior	Berlin Rosenbaum	Clear Creek High School
1st Junior	Amira Oueini	Westbrook Intermediate School
2nd Junior	Himesh Mallula	PEARLAND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, WEST - MS
3rd Junior	Dhruva Seelam	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
3rd Junior	Sachin Melanis	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
3rd Junior	Rayan Rathi	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
4th Junior	Arely Gutierrez	Houston Academy
Houston Geological Society		
HGS sends a team to review Earth Sciences-related projects in the Junior and Senior Divisions. A top project is picked in the Junior Division and top 3 projects are picked for the Senior Division. Each winner receives an award certificate. HGS funds three summer interns at the Houston Museum of Natural Sciences. Students must meet work requirements to be awarded an internship. Finalist HMNS Summer Intern Awards are nominated by HGS but awarded to three Senior Division finalists by ECH.		
1st Junior	Victoria Kerr	Seabrook Intermediate School
1st Senior	Elise Bernadac	Stratford - HS
2nd Junior	David Liu	SpiderSmart Learning Center - Katy
2nd Senior	Aditya Mandke	Spring Branch Academic Institute
Honorable Mention Senior	Claire Zhou	Dulles High School
Honorable Mention Senior	Arsh Kudariya	Seven Lakes - HS
Honorable Mention Junior	Ryder Olivier	Tomball Int
Honorable Mention Junior	Michelle Ou	McCullough Junior High

Houston Intellectual Property Law Association		
The Houston Intellectual Property Law Association is an organization of intellectual property lawyers, patent agents, and law student affiliates primarily in the Houston, Texas area. Through regular meetings, sponsored CLE opportunities, and amicus briefs, HIPLA promotes the development and understanding of intellectual property law.		
HIPLA Award - Senior	Harrison Tran	Alief Taylor HS
HIPLA Award - Senior	Alex Lopez	Alief Taylor HS
HIPLA Award - Senior	Raymond Nguyen	Alief Taylor HS
HIPLA Award - Senior	Clare McKenna	TWHS: The Woodlands High School
HIPLA Award - Junior	Rebecca Yu	Fort Bend ISD
HIPLA Award - Junior	Ximin Zhang	Fort Bend ISD
HIPLA Award - Senior	Rithvika Pradeesh	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
International Society of Automation - Houston Section		
The International Society of Automation - Houston Section is the local chapter for ISA. ISA is a non-profit organization focused on creating a better world through automation. ISA provides standards and technical content for engineers and technicians in the automation industry, network events, mentorship opportunities, among others. The local chapter has more than 800 members, and it is focused on supporting them with networking events, technical meetings, and scholarship opportunities.		
1st	Aditya Tandon	Awty International School
1st	Stephen Liu	Awty International School
1st	Alex Drew	Awty International School
2nd	Leila Alboraihi	Harmony School of Innovation Katy
2nd	Lucas Rigoulot	Clear Lake High School
3rd	Richard Chen	Clear Lake High School
Intuitive Machines		
In 2024, Intuitive Machines soft-landed its Nova-C lunar lander on the Moon, returning the U.S. to the lunar surface for the first time since 1972. In 2025, Intuitive Machines returned a second lander to the lunar south pole. Intuitive Machines, a space technology, infrastructure, and services leader, provides end-to-end mission solutions that transform spacecraft from single-mission services into continuously operating infrastructure generating persistent space-based data and mission services.		
1st IM Great Mechanics Award - Senior	Andrew Yoon	Tompkins - HS
1st IM Great Mechanics Award - Senior	Srikar Karri	Bridgeland - HS
1st IM Great Mechanics Award - Junior	Tram Huynh	SST - Champions College Prep - MS
1st IM Great Mechanics Award - Senior	Silas Lovett	Friendswood High School
Krishen Foundation for Arts and Sciences		
The Krishen Foundation for Arts and Sciences has been dedicated to advancing excellence in science and the arts through education, cultural reciprocity, and knowledge between students of America, India other nations for over 3 decades. Through sponsorships and financial support of research in science and technology, KRIFAS has enabled learning and educational success in multiple institutions, including SEFH in Houston, Texas and Innovation Day at R.D. Engineering College in Faridabad, India.		
	MANASHWIN NELLURI	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	MANAS TELIKEPALLI	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Avi Singa	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Shubam Vennu	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Madeleine Melancon	Carnegie Vanguard HS
	Sahil Kulkarni	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Myreen Ahsan	Friendswood Junior High
	Yasmine Ashraf	Houston Quran Academy - Spring - MS

	Ashvin Ghanta	The Emery/Weiner School
	Avighna Ghanta	The Emery/Weiner School
	Ansh Gupta	McCullough Junior High
Laddering Your Success		
At LYS, our mission is to provide a clear pathway for students to achieve success. We do this by empowering them to move from potential to prosperity using our core method: Being, Knowing, Doing. This isn't just a sales pitch; it's the foundation of everything we build, from our products to our relationships.		
1st	Aathmika Rathnakumar	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
1st	Vihaan Shah	Creekside Park JH
1st	Anvithasree Srinivasan	Knox Junior High
2nd	Junhao Cheng	The Village School
2nd	Miley Huynh	Clear Lake High School
3rd	Hibah Faheem	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
3rd	Andrew Haynes	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
3rd	Adeela Law	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
3rd	Aaryan Hussain	Clements High School
North Houston National Space Society & Mars Society		
We are a non-profit organization that promotes the colonization of space and space travel to Mars		
The Nova Spotlight Award	Tram Huynh	SST - Champions College Prep - MS
The Nova Spotlight Award	Sri Magathala	Smith - MS
The Nova Spotlight Award	Guangqi Yue	McCullough Junior High
The Nova Spotlight Award	Jiaen Jiang	Jiang Family Home School - MS
The Nova Spotlight Award	Cayson Wang	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
The Nova Spotlight Award	Asa Gangjee	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
The Nova Spotlight Award	Suman Muppavarapu	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
The Nova Spotlight Award	Ria Aggarwal	The Village School
The Office of Naval Research: Naval Science Award		
The Office of Naval Research Naval Science Award recognizes outstanding student research that demonstrates excellence in science and engineering with relevance to challenges important to the United States Navy and Marine Corps. The award honors innovative projects that reflect the creativity, rigor, and problem solving skills central to naval research and technological advancement.		
	Ethan Theis	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
	Robert Lozano	BCM Biotech Academy at Rusk - MS
	Kiley Williams	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
	Dhanashi Dhriti	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
	Nathan Zhang	League City Intermediate School
	Alexandra Pruneda	Seabrook Intermediate School
	Keidas Budhathoki	McCullough Junior High
	Aariz Vastani	Clear Brook High School
	Sahana Dilli babu	Carnegie Vanguard HS
	Wendi Ning	Clements High School
	Simone K	Clements High School
	Oliver Fan	James E. Taylor - HS
	Silas Lovett	Friendswood High School
	Rhea Chidambaram	The Village School

South Texas Section--American Institute of Chemical Engineers		
<p>We are the local (Houston-Area) section of American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the premier national and international professional society for chemical engineers. We provide continuing education, networking, and leadership development. Our members have come from industry, academia, and government. We have been a special awarding agency at SEFH for many years. Some of our local section chairs have been contestants in past science fairs.</p>		
1st STS-AIChE - Senior	Prachi Natoo	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
2nd STS-AIChE - Senior	Ananya Gupta	Seven Lakes - HS
3rd STS-AIChE - Senior	Anvesha Subramanian	Ridge Point High School
1st STS-AIChE - Junior	Jayden Liu	McCullough Junior High
2nd STS-AIChE - Junior	Marion Connelly	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
3rd STS-AIChE - Junior	Aria Allen	Spring Branch Academic Institute
Space Center Houston		
<p>Space Center Houston is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational foundation offering extensive science education programs and a space museum. The cornerstone of its education mission is Space Center Houston, a leading science and space exploration learning center. It is one of Houston's top attractions, the area's No. 1 attraction for international visitors, the Official Visitor Center of NASA Johnson Space Center and a Smithsonian Affiliate.</p>		
Senior Space U Scholarship	Jiaen Jiang	Jiang Family Home School - MS
Senior SCH Membership	Aarush Bhavanam	Bridgeland - HS
Junior Breakfast with an Astronaut	Muhammad Asad	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
Junior Breakfast with an Astronaut	Amaan Rahman	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
SPE Gulf Coast Section		
<p>Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) Gulf Coast Section Community Service Committee. Our committee is committed to empowering and developing the oil and gas community by promoting STEM education, industry engagement, leadership development, and programs that positively impact both professionals and local institutions.</p>		
1st	Addison Binford	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
2nd	Claire Zhou	Dulles High School
3rd	Karina DSouza	TWHS: The Woodlands High School
Honorable Mention	John Lezama	Tomball HS
Honorable Mention	Noah Ansari	McCullough Junior High
Swaralayam Arts Forum dba iYar Fine Arts		
<p>Swaralayam Arts Forum dba iYar Fine Arts is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) educational and cultural organization founded in 1996. Among our many innovations, in 2009 we started encouraging fine arts through science. iYar Fine Arts gives out Special Awards for fine arts related science projects at the Science Engineering Fair of Houston and the Clear Creek Independent School District (CCISD), at Elementary (Shruti Laya), Middle (Pattu Rajagopalan) and High School (Sulochana Pattabhiraman Awards).</p>		
1st Pattu Rajagopalan Award	Abby Zwart	Westbrook Intermediate School
Honorable Mention	Sonya Gopalani	Knox Junior High
Honorable Mention	Isabella Ayala	Stafford STEM Magnet Academy
Honorable Mention	Noah Morris	Brookside Intermediate School
Honorable Mention	Patricio Molina Velazquez	BCM Biotech Academy at Rusk - MS
Honorable Mention	Saveri Bose	McCullough Junior High
Honorable Mention	Catherine Woods-Jimenez	School of Science and Technology, Houston - MS
1st Sulochana Pattabhiraman Award	Akhil Rajarathnam	Clear Springs High School
Honorable Mention	Aaryan Hussain	Clements High School
Honorable Mention	Jeremiah Franklin	Avalos PTech

Honorable Mention	Alexa Pena	Avalos PTech
Honorable Mention	Andrew Ramirez	Avalos PTech
Honorable Mention	William Larson	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
The Health Museum		
The Health Museum ignites curiosity and empowers learners of all ages by transforming STEAM into hands-on, meaningful experiences. Through immersive exhibits, innovative school programs, and real world connections to medicine and health, the Museum bridges classroom learning with lived human stories. As a trusted community resource, it inspires students and the public alike to see themselves as future problem solvers, compassionate leaders, and informed stewards of health—locally and globally.		
	Dylan Ma	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Moemal Al-Wishah	British International School Houston - HS
	Ali Moualla	British International School Houston - HS
	Gissel Cardenas	Harmony School of Advancement
	Tanvi Bussu	Knox Junior High
	Joseph Phan	Harmony School of Excellence - MS Sugar Land
	Mehtab Mohammad	Harmony School of Excellence - MS Sugar Land
	Lauryn Wallace	Peet Junior High
University of Houston College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics		
The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics is committed to the success of our students, the pursuit of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, and continued engagement in community and professional service. The College is dedicated to cultivating an environment of intellectual growth and serving as a leader in innovative research. The College has six major departments including Biology/Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Math and Physics.		
Dean's Choice	Marley Smith	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
US Coast Guard (Houston Area)		
The Coast Guard is responsible for a broad array of missions including search and rescue, law enforcement, environmental protection and more right here in Houston - the nation's largest port. Whether in command of a vessel, the cockpit of an aircraft, or technical experts on-scene, Coast Guardsmen stand "Always Ready!", using STEM skills each day to keep our country and waterways safe. Sector Houston-Galveston congratulates all students today and especially those recipients of our agency awards.		
Most Innovative in Junior Division	Hannah Li	TAYS Junior High - MS
Most Innovative in Junior Division	Manha Shaik	Fort Settlement Middle School
Most Innovative in Junior Division	Saanvi Gopal	Fort Settlement Middle School
Most Innovative in Junior Division	Navika Agarwal	Fort Settlement Middle School
Most Innovative in Junior Division	Aria Allen	Spring Branch Academic Institute
Exceptional Applicability to the Maritime Domain	Caden Pohlkamp	Brookside Intermediate School
Exceptional Applicability to the Maritime Domain	Karina DSouza	TWHS: The Woodlands High School
Exceptional Applicability to the Maritime Domain	James Li	The Village School
Most Innovative the Senior Division	Aarush Bhavanam	Bridgeland - HS
Most Innovative the Senior Division	Ronit Chheda	Clements High School
Most Innovative the Senior Division	Addison Binford	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
WEAT & TAWWA		
The Water Environment Association of Texas (WEAT) and Texas American Water Works Association (TAWWA) are seeking innovative projects focused on improving clean water and wastewater systems. We encourage submissions that explore cutting-edge technologies, sustainable practices, and solutions for water treatment, conservation, wastewater reuse, stormwater management, and more. This is an exciting opportunity to showcase your ideas and contribute to the future of water sustainability.		
1st WEAT & TAWWA Award of Excellence	Michelle Ou	McCullough Junior High

2nd WEAT & TAWWA Award of Excellence	Anastasia Zabik	Sacred Heart Catholic School - MS
3rd WEAT & TAWWA Award of Excellence	Marley Smith	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
1st WEAT & TAWWA Award of Excellence	Kritika Bharadwaj	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
2nd WEAT & TAWWA Award of Excellence	Jose Barrios	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
2nd WEAT & TAWWA Award of Excellence	William Li	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
3rd WEAT & TAWWA Award of Excellence	Japesh Banker	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
3rd WEAT & TAWWA Award of Excellence	Bilal Sorathia	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
CITADEL		
Citadel Securities Innovation Prize celebrates students who use creative thinking and strong data skills to solve real world problems. This award recognizes projects that show curiosity, smart experimentation, and clear, evidence based conclusions—and encourages students to keep exploring STEM ideas that make a difference.		
	Myreen Ahsan	Friendswood Junior High
	Asa Gangjee	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
	Suman Muppavarapu	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
Lemelson Early Inventor Prize		
The Lemelson Early Inventor Prize is given to one middle school student that: Demonstrate problem-solving by identifying a critical problem that impacts their life or the lives of their family or community. Applies empathy and STEM knowledge to find a practical solution that addresses the problem and promises to improve their life or those of their family or community. Displays entrepreneurial thinking by developing a tangible invention and exemplifies environmentally responsible thinking.		
	Sai Sahasra Maram	Quail Valley Middle School
Regeneron Biomedical Science Award		
The Regeneron Biomedical Science Award honors a high school student whose project shows excellence in biomedical science, creativity, and real world impact. Sponsored by Regeneron, it recognizes students who use science responsibly to improve health and benefit society.		
	MANASHWIN NELLURI	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	MANAS TELIKEPALLI	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Peggy Levy Creative Excellence Award		
The Peggy Levy Creative Excellence Award is given to projects that demonstrate excellence in creativity as determined by the project's objectives, design, and presentation.		
	Ashvin Ghanta	The Emery/Weiner School
	Avighna Ghanta	The Emery/Weiner School
	Ari Alcantar	Seabrook Intermediate School
	Raghav Gupta	Beckendorff Junior High school
	Juliet Ramsey	Seabrook Intermediate School
	Dante Tamez	Hambrick MS
	Dominic Hernandez	Hambrick MS
	Anthony Tovar	BCM Biotech Academy at Rusk - MS
	Maaz Kattangere	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Ryan Berger	The Emery/Weiner School
	John Lezama	Tomball HS
	Christopher Angell	Friendswood High School
	Varrun Athis Rajh	Elkins High School
	Krithik Manoharan	Elkins High School
	Jeremiah Franklin	Avalos PTech
	Alexa Pena	Avalos PTech

	Timur Gezalov	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Amber Zheng	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Gauri Chandran	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
Science and Art Award - SEFH		
The Science and Art award honors students who have incorporated the "arts" within a scientific project. Students investigate science with an artistic lens providing a complementary view between the two dynamic entities.		
	Caleb Adams	Knox Junior High
	Aaryan Hussain	Clements High School
	Elizabeth Ellis	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
	Audrey Garza	Brookside Intermediate School
	Naifah Habib	McCullough Junior High
	Alexandra Noyes	Westbrook Intermediate School
	Mary Sobowale	Hightower High School
	Alexis Xiao	Spring Branch Academic Institute
	Anna Yang	Spring Branch Academic Institute
	William Larson	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
Science and Sports Award - SEFH		
The Science & Sport Award is given to students who have diligently researched the science of sports. Acknowledging that sport(s) are dynamic structures made up of science provides technological strides for those who participate in the game.		
	Alexia Stout	Clear Lake High School
	Jayden Om Benyei-Anirudhan	Creekside Park JH
	Vinicius De Faria	Creekside Park JH
	Sarayu Katragadda	McCullough Junior High
	Janiru Dissanayake	Clear Lake High School
	Kenneth Baloy	Harmony School of Innovation Katy
	Kushagra Nagar	Seven Lakes - HS
	Anna Roeper	Houston Academy
	Needah Memon	Clear Lake High School
Smiti Gandhi Research Star Award		
The Smiti Gandhi Research Star Award is named after a SEFH and ISEF Alumni who leaves a lasting legacy and impression upon the scientific community and students mentored in K-12. This award serves to inspire 6th and 9th grade students who conduct exceptional research in the STEM fields.		
	Madeleine Melancon	Carnegie Vanguard HS
	Eshaan Ahuja	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Aditya Tandon	Awty International School
	Stephen Liu	Awty International School
	Alex Drew	Awty International School
	Ronit Chheda	Clements High School
	Diya Rajkumar	Tompkins - HS
	Rafaela Rossetto de Souza Castilhos	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Rishabh Bathala	Carnegie Vanguard HS
	Reyansh Arora	Carnegie Vanguard HS
	Sahisnu Adhikari	Carnegie Vanguard HS
	Kritika Bharadwaj	AST: Academy of Science and Technology

	Esha Dave	The Village School
	Rishaan Dave	The Village School
	Eric He	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	James Heffner	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Katherine McDermott	TWHS: The Woodlands High School
	Meera Kalakkunnath	TWHS: The Woodlands High School
	Phoebe Pan	Friendswood High School
	Simran Viridi	Friendswood High School
	Miheer Parasnis	Westside HS
	Siddhanth Relan	Westside HS
	Pimchanok Pawithakul	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Ishan Pinjala	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Irvine Qian	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Dhruv Shah	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Sristi Shetty	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Sahasra Vellore	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Riya Singhal	Tomball Memorial - HS
	Amiesha Umbarkar	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Inba Vinothkumar	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
The Girls Cyber Award - SEFH		
The Girls Cyber Award congratulates females who have conducted scientific research in the field of computer sciences. We encourage young ladies to continue their interest in computer science as it is a STEM field that holds a promising future for those who enter the career.		
	Addison Binford	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
	Anushka Polapally	Tompkins - HS
	Nessa Cmerek	Westbrook Intermediate School
	Laila Collver	McCullough Junior High
	Chanya Methaprayoon	Awty International School
	Daimy Andrade	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
	Felicia Xu	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Ganeev Jaswal	Fort Settlement Middle School
	Jasse Therese Alob	Harmony School of Advancement
	Jaya Lal	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
	May Espinola	Tompkins - HS
	Mira Pemmanda	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
	Nathalie McDaniel	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
	Needah Memon	Clear Lake High School
	Ngoc Nguyen	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Sahana Gade	Austin High School
	Sarah Castro	Cypress Ranch - HS
	Sherry Gao	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Bhavana Thambireddy	Irons Junior High
	Anjali Balne	Irons Junior High
	Aarvi Thota	Sartartia Middle School
	Sanjana Ganglani	Sartartia Middle School

	Shriya Venkat	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
	Sneha Kibey	ACES: Academy for Careers in Engineering and Scien
	Titilayo Ogunjimi	Harmony School of Advancement
	Xunyi Liu	ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL
The Legacy Award - SEFH		
The Legacy Award celebrates 12th-grade students' STEM research who have participated in the Science and Engineering Fair of Houston for the past four, five, and six years. Students' perseverance, passion, and resilience to engage in the scientific process is exceptional as they had to overcome many challenges to attain this accomplishment. The Legacy Award honors students as a distinguished role model for their peers and true innovator in the field of science and engineering.		
4	Andrew Haynes	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
4	Aryan Khandelwal	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
4	Neel Kura	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
4	Adeela Law	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
4	Daniel Levin	Friendswood High School
4	Chloe Luo	Clear Lake High School
4	Dylan Ma	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
4	Raheel Mansury	TWCP High School
4	Vuk Popovic	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
4	Irene Qian	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
4	Andrea Shi	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
4	Sriram Susarla	Dulles High School
4	Victoria Velasquez Anderson	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
5	Addison Binford	ASHP: Academy for Science and Health Prof
5	Joel Blessan	Friendswood High School
5	Cera Easterwood	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
5	Shivam Gupta	Friendswood High School
5	John Lezama	Tomball HS
5	Prachi Natoo	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
5	Ishan Pendyala	Friendswood High School
5	Akhil Rajarathnam	Clear Springs High School
5	Aathmika Rathnakumar	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
5	Sofia Rivera	Friendswood High School
5	Sanjan Sarang	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
5	Iris Shen	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
5	Adam Siddiqi	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
5	Tavishi Sinha	Dulles High School
5	Kelly Xiong	Spring Branch Academic Institute
5	Jonathan Zwart	Clear Lake High School
6	Vibhan Emmi	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
6	Siddharth Jain	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
6	Rayhan Papar	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
6	Aditi Venkataraman	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
UH STEM Center - Poster Contest		

The Science and Engineering Fair of Houston Poster Design Contest encourages students to think about science and engineering in an artistic way and create imaginative interpretations of the substance of science and engineering.

First Place - Senior	Serene Huang	College Park High School
Second Place - Senior	Eurydice Gomora-Lopez	G.W. Carver High School
Third Place - Senior	Marianne Olvera	G.W. Carver High School
Honorable Mention - Senior	Ulysses Perez	Dwight D. Eisenhower High School
First Place -Junior	Vanessa Gonzales	Baylor College of Medicine Biotech Academy at Rusk
Second Place - Junior	Avery Okoh	Baylor College of Medicine Academy at Ryan
Third Place - Junior	Patricio Molina Velazquez	Baylor College of Medicine Biotech Academy at Rusk
Honorable Mention - Junior	Derrick Huang	WestBrook Intermediate

Writing Contest – SEFH

The Science and Engineering Fair of Houston invited all participants in all affiliated school or district-level fairs to submit electronic papers about their science fair projects. The goals of the contest include the following: To encourage the development of analytical thinking and writing; to recognize and reward excellence in technical writing; to promote awareness of the importance of effective communication in science, engineering, and technology.

1st - Junior	Ariel Anderson	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
2nd - Junior	Jamie Evalyn Theis	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
3rd - Junior	Myreen Ahsan	Friendswood Junior High
Honorable Mention - Junior	Guadalupe Hernandez	BCM Academy at James D Ryan - MS
1st - Senior	Eshaan Ahuja	AST: Academy of Science and Technology
2nd - Senior	Jiaen Jiang	Jiang Family Home School - MS
3rd - Senior	Azhmeer Jesani	Clear Creek High School
Honorable Mention - Senior	Riya Singhal	Tomball Memorial - HS