

2009 Science Congress Winners to Attend International Science and Engineering Fair and STANYS State Science Congress Competition

The thirty-second annual Central Western Science Congress took place March 7 at St. John Fisher College. Sujay Sheel of Pittsford Mendon High School and Divya Seth of Brighton High School won Highest Honors and will represent us at the Intel ISEF competition in Reno, Nevada in May. Sujay presented his project, *A Novel Method to Determine the Mechanism Behind DNA-DNA Interactions Using Optical Tweezers* and Divya presented her work on *The Effect of Ibudilast on Tat-induced TNF-alpha Production*. Winning High Honors were Daniel Madziarz and Kelsey Hill, both of Byron Bergen High School, and Jay Gilbert of Irondequoit Dake Junior High School. Dan's project is *The Census and Habitat Survey of Regina Septemvittata, the Queen Snake, in the Bergen Swamp* while Kelsey's is entitled *Survey of the Invasive Eurasian Species Phragmites Australis in the Bergen Swam*. Jay presented *Which Wood Would You Use to Heat Your Home?* These three students are invited to compete at the STANYS State Science Congress in Albany in June.

SENIOR DIVISION EXHIBITS

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Highest Honors \$60 | Sujay Tyle Divya Seth | Pittsford-Mendon HS Brighton HS |
| High Honors \$40 | Daniel Madziarz Kelsey Hill | Byron-Bergen HS Byron Bergen HS |
| Honors \$20 | Derek Langdon Michelle Infantolino | Greece Athena HS Greece Athena HS |
| Honorable Mention \$10 | Marius Kothor | Greece Athena HS |

JUNIOR DIVISION EXHIBITS

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| Highest Honors \$40 | Jay Gilbert | Dake Junior HS |
| High Honors \$30 | Ishita Srivastava Nikita Dahake | Barker Rd Middle School Barker Rd Middle School |
| Honors \$20 | Maggie Joel Frederick Stein Sahil Koul | Barker Rd Middle School Barker Rd Middle School Barker Rd Middle School |
| Honorable Mention \$10 | Breana Rountree Ryan Kealey Andrew Kompare | Twelve Corners Middle School Barker Rd Middle School Barker Rd Middle School |

SENIOR DIVISION SCIENCE FICTION

Highest Honors \$50 Dan Hahn Gates Chili HS

JUNIOR DIVISION SCIENCE FICTION

Highest Honors \$40 Allison Maier Dake Junior HS
High Honors \$25 Madison Russell Dake Junior HS

SPECIAL AWARDS

Dyke Conyne Memorial Fun of Science Award

\$50 Frederick Stein Barker Rd Middle School
\$25 Ryan Kealey Barker Rd Middle School
\$25 Andrew Kompare Barker Rd Middle School

Genesee Valley Chapter, New York Water Environment Association Award

\$50 Daniel Madziarz Byron Bergen HS
\$50 Breana Rountree Twelve Corners Middle School
\$50 Jay Gilbert Dake Junior HS
\$50 Lemlem Baraki Dake Junior High School

St. John Fisher College Course Scholarship Daniel Madziarz Byron Bergen HS

United States Army Awards

Bronze Medallion Sujay Tyle Pittsford-Mendon HS
Certificate Divya Seth Brighton HS
Certificate Daniel Madziarz Byron-Bergen HS
Certificate Kelsey Hill Byron-Bergen HS
Certificate Derek Langdon Barker Rd Middle School

United States Navy/Marine Corps Distinguished Achievement Awards

\$50 Gift Certificate Sujay Tyle Pittsford-Mendon HS
\$50 Gift Certificate Divya Seth Brighton HS
Certificate Jay Gilbert Dake Junior High School
Certificate Ishita Srivastava Barker Rd Middle School
Certificate Nikita Dahake Barker Rd Middle School

United States Air Force Award

Bag, MP3 player Sujay Tyle Pittsford-Mendon HS
Bag, MP3 player Divya Seth Brighton HS
Bag, MP3 player Daniel Madziarz Byron-Bergen HS
Bag, MP3 player Kelsey Hill Byron-Bergen HS

In Vitro Biology Award Certificate Divya Seth Brighton HS