

COORSTEK.

DMRSEF DENVER
METRO
REGIONAL
SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING
FAIR 

DMRSEF
WINNERS
2021



COORSTEK.



We are proud to present the following students with the 58th Annual Denver Metro Regional Science and Engineering Fair **BEST IN FAIR** awards:

SENIOR DIVISION

Senior First Place: Reese Titensor

Effects of cannabidiol exposure on cortisol levels in Danio rerio embryos with heat induced stress

Senior Second Place: Tyler Burt

A Novel Mask Insert to Reduce Habitual Particle Transmission

Senior Third Place: Aditi Avinash

Breakdown of Gluten Proteins using a Newly Identified Combination of Fruit Derived Enzymes to Alleviate Symptoms of Gluten Intolerance

Senior First Alternate: Berlin Barnett & Sabine Manske

Diffusion Limitation Considerations for Alginate Hydrogels for use in a Breast Model Post-Mastectomy

Senior Second Alternate: Rachel Christensen

The Environmental Effect on Aquatic Ecosystems of Run-Off From Wildfires Where Fire Retardant Slurry Was Used

JUNIOR DIVISION

Junior First Place: Elizabeth Vossler

Blink-183: The Effect of Projected versus Reflected Light on Blinking Rate

Junior Second Place: Kanshita Dam

How do vibrations from sound waves affect plant growth?

Junior Third Place: Chloe Pennington

Would You Drink That?! The Relationship Between Batch Test and Amount of PFAS Parts Per Trillion

Junior Honorable Mention: Lucas Dunn

On Target

JUNIOR CATEGORY AWARD WINNERS

Behavioral & Social Sciences

First Place - Elizabeth Vossler

Blink-183; The Effect of Projected versus Reflected Light on Blinking Rate

Second Place - Mila Vigil

Brain Waves and Parkinson's Disease: An Early Detection?

Third Place - Lola Green & Phoebe Donovan

The Cover Up; The Relationship Between Face Masks and Perception of Facial Cues

Biological Sciences

First Place - Kanshita Dam

How do vibrations from sound waves affect plant growth?

Computer Science

First Place - Niram Nagafuji & Akhil Ayalur

Does Benford's Law match COVID-19 data?

Physics and Astronomy

First Place - Lucas Dunn

On Target

Second Place - Holden Demain

The Relationship Between Pressure and the Bounce Height of a Basketball

Earth and Environmental Sciences

First Place - Chloe Pennington

Would You Drink That?! The Relationship Between Batch Test and Amount of PFAS Parts Per Trillion

Second Place - Shrreya Sethuramalingam

Chlorophyta and Lemnoideae Components Impacting the Contaminants of H₂O

Third Place - Louis Calkin

Extended Use of Oil Phyllic Hydrophobic Sponges in Stormwater Remediation Prove Effective and Economical

Engineering and Material Sciences

First Place - Ersel Serdar

Dust Begone: Using Arduinos to Clean Mars Rover Solar Panels

Second Place - Samuel Calkin

Biosourced Flame Retardant is a Viable Alternative to Toxic PFAS (poly/fluoro/alkyl substances)/ 'forever chemical' Retardant

Third Place - Brigid Morin

Protect-All

Medicine and Health Sciences

First Place - Julian Kramer

Don't UV Burning Me: A Comparative Study Examining Which Type of Sunscreen Blocks More UV Rays

SENIOR CATEGORY AWARD WINNERS

Animal Sciences

First Place - Reese Titensor

Effects of cannabidiol exposure on cortisol levels in *Danio rerio* embryos with heat induced stress

Second Place - Alex Ramsey

Determining if Common Waste Products, Coupled with a Simple Base, Provide Stable Nutritional Value for Mealworms

Behavioral Sciences

First Place - Akshati Vaishnav

Evaluating Anxiety Levels through a ML-based Algorithm

Second Place - Max Aronheim

What Patterns Reside Within Music Composition: What defines genres?

Computer Sciences

First Place - Emily Zhang

Fusing LiDAR and Camera Data for Advanced Context Recognition in Autonomous Navigation Sensory Systems through Multi-Dimensional Neural Network Architectures

Second Place - Aryan Roy

VR Tele-Rehabilitation and Machine Learning Techniques to better assist in cancer diagnosis and quality of life

Biological Sciences

First Place - Aditi Avinash

Breakdown of Gluten Proteins using a Newly Identified Combination of Fruit Derived Enzymes to Alleviate Symptoms of Gluten Intolerance

Second Place - Sydney George and Kevin Collins

Investigating the impact of ALS-associated point mutations on ErbB4's proteolysis

Second Place (Tie) - Kaylin Hanna

Encapsulating Bacterial Biofilms: Adapting Cyanoacrylate Skin Adhesive to Create a Bacteriostatic, Superhydrophobic Device Coating that Reduces Infection Risk

Earth and Environmental Sciences

First Place - Rachel Christensen

The Environmental Effect on Aquatic Ecosystems of Run-Off From Wildfires Where Fire Retardant Slurry Was Used

Second Place - Ibrahim Mohammad

Understanding Wildfires for Better Prevention Using an Image Classification Neural Network

Third Place - Caden Eagle

Chlorella's Effect on CO2 Emissions from Vehicles

SENIOR CATEGORY AWARD WINNERS

Chemistry & Energy – SCHE

First Place - Ayan Vaishnav

Designing and Evaluating the Performance of Novel Airfoil Innovations Using SOLIDWORKS

Second Place - Arjun Batra

Implementation of a Copper Catalyst for Methane Hydrate Formation

Third Place - Chandler Slowik

Micro Hydro Electric Generator

Engineering and Material Sciences

First Place - Tyler Burt

A Novel Mask Insert to Reduce Habitual Particle Transmission

Second Place - Rithvik Ijju

A Human-Machine Interface That Helps Quadriplegic Patients Communicate by Translating Eye Blinks into Morse Code.

Plant Sciences – SPLT

First Place - Cora Becker and Amanda Behmer

A Peek into Plastic Pollution: The effect of irradiated PET microplastics on the culture density of *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*

Medicine and Health Sciences

First Place - Sabine Manske and Berlin Barnett

Diffusion Limitation Considerations for Alginate Hydrogels for use in a Breast Model Post-Mastectomy

Second Place- Rohini Kompella

Quantitative Methods for Anti-glaucoma Drug Concentration-Response Relationships in the Human Eye: Single Bimatoprost Slow-Release System for Six-month Glaucoma Therapy

Third Place - Matthew Anderson

Early Diagnosis of Parkinsonism via a Smartphone Application

Plant Sciences – SPLT

First Place - Cora Becker and Amanda Behmer

A Peek into Plastic Pollution: The effect of irradiated PET microplastics on the culture density of *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*

Social Sciences – SSSC

First Place - Siena Negron

Political Bias Assessment

Second Place - Aiden Lee

Finding an Ideal Model of Different Socioeconomic Factors that Maximize Happiness and Minimize Depression

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

American Meteorological Society

Maya Hunter – Senior Earth and Environmental Sciences
COVID-19 Shutdowns and Air Quality: A demographic analysis

American Psychological Association

Siena Negron -
Political Bias Assessment

ASM Materials Education Foundation

Tia Seniw & Akhniyet Makhsat -
The Effectivity of Nonwoven Fabrics for Use in Marine Oil Spill Cleanup

Association for Women Geoscientists

Bryne Knowles and Emily Lia -
Dam Break Modeling on the Cherry Creek Reservoir to Predict Potential Flood Impacts

Nugent Family Statistical Award

Akhil Ayalar & Niram Nagafuji -
Does Benford's Law match COVID-19 data?
Srinivas Arun -
Analyzing Google DataCommons and County-Level COVID-19 Data

DMRSEF Teacher of the Year

Kevin Nugent – Friends School,
Second Year DMRSEF teacher

Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority

Tia Seniw & Akhniyet Makhsat
The Effectivity of Nonwoven Fabrics for Use in Marine Oil Spill Cleanup

City of Aurora Stormwater Education

Kabir Srivastava -
No More Royal Oil

CO/WY American Statistical Association

Akber Shaikh -
High throughput neural tissue drug delivery and correlation with molecular descriptors
Akhil Ayalar & Niram Nagafuji -
Does Benford's Law match COVID-19 data?

Colorado Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

Cora Becker, Amanda Behmer -
A Peek into Plastic Pollution: The effect of irradiated PET microplastics on the culture density of *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*

Rachel Christensen –

The Environmental Effect on Aquatic Ecosystems of Run-Off From Wildfires Where Fire Retardant Slurry Was Used

Louis Calkin -

Extended Use of Oil Phyllic Hydrophobic Sponges in Stormwater Remediation Prove Effective and Economical

Shrreya Sethuramalingam -

Chlorophyta and Lemnoideae Components Impacting the Contaminants of H₂O

CoorsTek

Nikhila Narayana -

Catching the Sun: Harnessing Stokes Shift to Increase Solar Cell Efficiency

Rithvik Ijju -

A Human-Machine Interface That Helps Quadriplegic Patients Communicate by Translating Eye Blinks into Morse Code.

CU Science Discovery Anschutz

Mila Vigil –

Brain Waves and Parkinson's Disease: An Early Detection?

CU-Anschutz, Neuroscience Program

Matthew Anderson -

Early Diagnosis of Parkinsonism via a Smartphone Application

Mila Vigil -

Brain Waves and Parkinson's Disease: An Early Detection?

Denver Mensa

Santiago Castillo -

Influence of Mars's Gravity and Seismicity on Mining Waste Dumps Facilities

Elizabeth Vossler -

Blink-183: The Effect of Projected versus Reflected Light on Blinking Rate

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

Denver Museum of Nature and Science

Aditi Avinash -

Breakdown of Gluten Proteins using a Newly Identified Combination of Fruit Derived Enzymes to Alleviate Symptoms of Gluten Intolerance

Holden Demain -

The Relationship Between Pressure and the Bounce Height of a Basketball

Denver Water Quality Team

Louis Calkin -

Extended Use of Oil Phyllic Hydrophobic Sponges in Stormwater Remediation Prove Effective and Economical

Ferrara Family Award for Scientific Advancement of Social and Environmental Justice

Akhil Ayalar & Niram Nagafuji -

Does Benford's Law match COVID-19 data?

Maya Hunter -

COVID-19 Shutdowns and Air Quality: A demographic analysis

Srinivas Arun -

Analyzing Google Data Commons and County-Level COVID-19 Data

Innovation in Water and Wastewater Award

Gitanjali Rao -

Novel Detection of *C. parvum* Transposons in Potable Water Using Genetically Engineered Bioelectric Sensors

Junior Student Choice Award

Elizabeth Vossler -

Blink-183; The Effect of Projected versus Reflected Light on Blinking Rate

Mu Alpha Theta

Roshan Klein-Seetharaman, Jacob Ellis -

Evolution of Multi-Step Traits in Different Social Structures

NASA Earth System Science Award

Nikhila Narayana -

Catching the Sun: Harnessing Stokes Shift to Increase Solar Cell Efficiency

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Bryne Knowles, Emily Lai -

Dam Break Modeling on the Cherry Creek Reservoir to Predict Potential Flood Impacts

NSA Colorado

Emily Zhang -

Fusing LiDAR and Camera Data for Advanced Context Recognition in Autonomous Navigation Sensory Systems through Multi-Dimensional Neural Network Architectures

Abbas Shaikh -

A Deep Learning Framework for Automated Brain Tumor Segmentation and Survival Prediction Using Multimodal MRI Scans

Rithvik Ijju -

A Human-Machine Interface That Helps Quadriplegic Patients Communicate by Translating Eye Blinks into Morse Code.

Esrel Serdar -

Dust Begone: Using Arduinos to Clean Mars Rover Solar Panels

Akhil Ayalar, Niram Nagafuji -

Does Benford's Law match COVID-19 data?

Office of Naval Research

Reese Titensor -

Effects of cannabidiol exposure on cortisol levels in Danio rerio embryos with heat induced stress

Louis Calkin -

Extended Use of Oil Phyllic Hydrophobic Sponges in Stormwater Remediation Prove Effective and Economical

Aryan Roy -

VR Tele-Rehabilitation and Machine Learning Techniques to better assist in cancer diagnosis and quality of life

Gitanjali Rao -

Novel Detection of *C. parvum* Transposons in Potable Water Using Genetically Engineered Bioelectric Sensors

One World One Water Center at MSU

Louis Calkin -

Extended Use of Oil Phyllic Hydrophobic Sponges in Stormwater Remediation Prove Effective and Economical

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

Parker Water and Sanitation District

Shrreya Sthuramalingam -

Chlorophyta and Lemnoideae Components Impacting the Contaminants of H₂O

Gitanjali Rao -

Novel Detection of *C. parvum* Transposons in Potable Water Using Genetically Engineered Bioelectric Sensors

Reese Titensor -

Effects of cannabidiol exposure on cortisol levels in *Danio rerio* embryos with heat induced stress

Ricoh USA, Inc.

Samuel Calkin -

Biosourced Flame Retardant is a Viable Alternative to Toxic PFAS (poly/fluoro/alkyl substances)/ 'forever chemical' Retardant

Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association

Chloe Pennington -

Would You Drink That?! The Relationship Between Batch Test and Amount of PFAS Parts Per Trillion

Rocky Mountain Water Environment Federation

Rachel Christensen -

The Environmental Effect on Aquatic Ecosystems of Run-Off From Wildfires Where Fire Retardant Slurry Was Used

Senior Student Choice Award

Cedar Wine -

Determining the Correlation between Blood Sugar Metabolism and Ubiquinone-10: A Survey of Existing Research and a Proposed Design for Medical Experimentation

Sigma Alpha Lambda

Shriya Sriram and Mahi Mehta -

Testing the effect of age and gender on body image perception

Society for Petroleum Engineers

Nikhila Narayana-

Catching the Sun: Harnessing Stokes Shift to Increase Solar Cell Efficiency

Stefan Zehnacker -

Watch it Wash!

Society for In Vitro Biology

Tia Abraham -

Predictive Analysis of Transcription Factors to Directly Reprogram Human Cells

Stormwater Permittees for Local Awareness of Stream Health (SPLASH)

Caden Eagle

Chlorella's Effect on CO₂ Emissions from Vehicles

U.S. Agency for International Development

Gitanjali Rao -

Novel Detection of *C. parvum* Transposons in Potable Water Using Genetically Engineered Bioelectric Sensors

U.S. Metric Association

Reese Titensor -

Effects of cannabidiol exposure on cortisol levels in *Danio rerio* embryos with heat induced stress

U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize

Gitanjali Rao -

Novel Detection of *C. parvum* Transposons in Potable Water Using Genetically Engineered Bioelectric Sensors

Chloe Pennington -

Would You Drink That?! The Relationship Between Batch Test and Amount of PFAS Parts Per Trillion

Shrreya Sethuramalingam -

Chlorophyta and Lemnoideae Components Impacting the Contaminants of H₂O

Yale Science and Engineering Association

Gitanjali Rao -

Novel Detection of *C. parvum* Transposons in Potable Water Using Genetically Engineered Bioelectric Sensors

**THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAVE BEEN
NOMINATED TO PARTICIPATE AT THE COLORADO
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR (CSEF)**



**ABBAS SHAIKH
ADITI AVINASH
AIDEN LEE
AKBER SHAIKH
AKHIL AYALUR
AKHNIYET MAKHSAT
AKSHATI VAISHNAV
ALEX RAMSEY
AMANDA BEHMER
ARJUN BATRA
ARYAN ROY
AYAN VAISHNAV
BERLIN BARNETT
BRIGID MORIN
BRYNE KNOWLES
CADEN EAGLE
CEDAR WINE
CHANDLER SLOWIK
CHLOE PENNINGTON
CORA BECKER**

**ELIZABETH VOSSLER
EMILY LAI
EMILY ZHANG
ERSEL SERDAR
GITANJALI RAO
HOLDEN DEMAIN
IBRAHIM MOHAMMED
JACOB ELLIS
JULIAN KRAMER
KABIR SRIVASTAVA
KANSHITA DAM
KAYLIN HANNA
KEVIN COLLINS
LOLA GREEN
LOUIS CALKIN
LUCAS DUNN
MAHI MEHTA
MATTHEW ANDERSON
MAX ARONHEIM
MAYA HUNTER**

**MILA VIGIL
NIKHILA NARAYANA
NIRAM NAGAFUJI
PHOEBE DONOVAN
RACHEL CHRISTENSEN
REESE TITENSOR
RITHVIK IJJU
ROHINI KOMPPELLA
ROSHAN KLEIN-SEETHARAMAN
SABINE MANSKE
SAMUEL CALKIN
SANTIAGO CASTILLO
SHRIYA SRIRAM
SHRREYA SETHURAMALINGAM
SIENA NEGRON
SRINIVAS ARUN
STEFAN ZEHNACKER
SYDNEY GEORGE
TIA ABRAHAM
TIA SENIW
TYLER BURT**

**THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAVE BEEN
NOMINATED TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE
COMPETITIONS INCLUDING...**



**ELIZABETH VOSSLER
MILA VIGIL
PHOEBE DONOVAN
LOLA GREEN
KANSHITA DAM
AKHIL AYALUR
NIRAM NAGAFUJI
CHLOE PENNINGTON
SHRREYA SETHURAMALINGAM
LOUIS CALKIN
ERSEL SERDAR
SAMUEL CALKIN
BRIGID MORIN
JULIAN KRAMER
LUCAS DUNN
HOLDEN DEMAIN
KABIR SRIVASTAVA
SHRIYA SRIRAM
MAHI MEHTA
STEFAN ZEHNACKER**



**REESE TITENSOR
TYLER BURT
ADITI AVINASH**



**ADITI AVINASH
AKSHATI VAISHNAV
AYAN VAISHNAV
CHLOE PENNINGTON
CORR BECKER
AMANDA BEHMER
ELIZABETH VOSSLER
EMILY ZHANG
ERSEL SERDAR
JULIAN KRAMER
KANSHITA DAM
LUCAS DUNN
NIRAM NAGAFUJI
AKHIL AYALUR
RACHEL CHRISTENSEN
REESE TITENSOR
SABINE MANSKE
BERLIN BARNETT
SIENA NEGRON
TYLER BURT**