

## 2023-2024 IMPACT REPORT

COORSTEK DENVER METRO REGIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

#### CoorsTek.



#### FROM START TO SCIENCE FAIR...

In the CoorsTek Denver Metro Regional Science and Engineering Fair community you'll continuously hear us refer to the phrase "from start to science fair", which typically refers to all of the support and resources provided for students as they develop their projects from the first spark of an idea to a fully developed scientific presentation. In this annual report, however, we want to shift the focus to the behind-the-scenes work of the science fair team and celebrate the success of the science fair season made possible by our local STEM community. We'll walk you through the program development, year-round events, and wins along the way that laid the foundation for a successful fair season. Our commitment to fostering curiosity and innovation drives every aspect of our work, and we hope this report gives you a clearer picture of the efforts that contribute to this important event.

Reflecting on some of the highlights of this fair season, a key takeaway is identity. We talk a lot about what a scientist looks like and how we can encourage students to look beyond the seemingly unattainable status of becoming a scientist and instead, begin to see themselves as worthy and worthwhile contributors to the fields and disciplines they are most passionate about. We understand that the world of research is full of barriers, so at DMRSEF, we

## THIS IS WHAT A SCIENTIST LOOKS LIKE...

believe that teaching students that they are strong enough, resourceful enough, and smart enough to overcome any barrier in their way is the secret to ensuring they are confident that they have all the tools necessary to achieve their dreams and know they are supported in that journey.

"I think everyone deserves a seat at the table and everyone can learn something from everyone else. So I think the easiest way to do this, and [the DMRSEF Team does] a great job at this, is building community. It can be as simple as walking over to the poster next to you and going, "Hey! What are you working on?". I've had so many science fair friendships – and they stick! Because no matter what you are working on or what level you are at, it's important to remember that, because you are there, you ARE a scientist. You don't have to do or be specific things to be a scientist, by doing what you are doing, you are a scientist. No matter your background, where you are coming from, what experiment you are doing, everybody at the fair has that one thing in common, everybody there is a scientist."

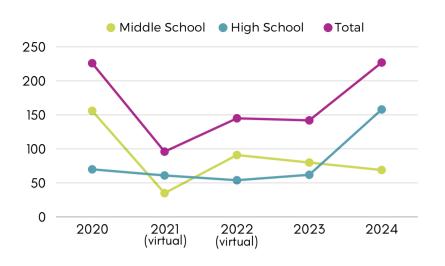
DMRSEF seeks to play an active role in rewriting this narrative for the next generation of STEM leaders. That is where you come in. By being a part of the DMRSEF community, you are contributing to empowering these students to be the ones to change what a scientist looks like.

"Science being incredibly competitive in the professional realm is absolutely true... you are influencing the next generation of scientists. This may just be the science fair, but you are influencing them to take on new attitudes and new approaches to science going forward... pushing that collaborative spirit is huge, those values and culture, because you are influencing the next generation of scientists and the next leaders in STEM, who may be the ones to change that culture and the way it is today."

Thank you for being an essential part of this mission.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

#### **5-YEAR PARTICIPATION**



 227
 202

 Students
 Projects

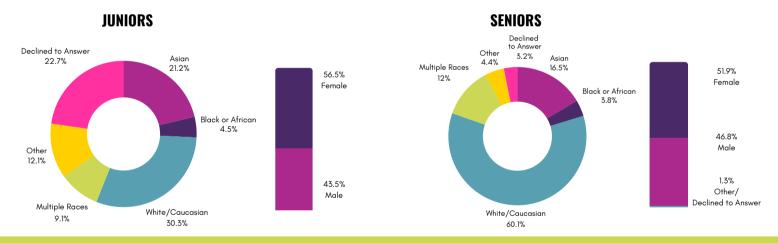
 120
 112

 Judges
 Volunteers

34 159
Schools Awards

\$12,000+

#### **STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS**

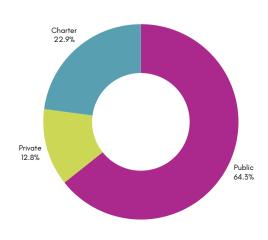


#### **SCHOOL PARTICIAPTION**

#### **COUNTY DISTRIBUTION BY PARTICIPANT**

# Private/Other 6.5% Adams 1.7% Cherry Creek 21.6% Denver 9.5%

#### **SCHOOL TYPE BY PARTICIPANT**



## SEASON KICKOFF









On Sunday, October 1st, we officially kicked off this year's science fair season! In addition to a series of presentations from the DMRSEF team covering all the logistics of participation, the day saw students brainstorm new project ideas, connect with STEM mentors, and find friends who share a love of research.

Mentors joined us to help students find their science fair spark from all throughout the local STEAM community, including:

- CoorsTek
- University of Colorado Denver
- University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
- City & County of Denver
- Colorado School of Mines
- United Launch Alliance
- Cherry Creek Stewardship Partners
- Denver Health

....and many more!

#### STUDENT MINI-GRANT PROGRAM



At the DMRSEF, we believe that every student with a passion for scientific discovery deserves an equal opportunity to showcase their ideas and talents, regardless of the resources at hand.

Understanding that financial constraints can often stand in the way of students' participation, this grant program offers up to \$100 to support project-related expenses, in hopes of alleviating this barrier.

The DMRSEF Team worked alongside Project Bridge, a science communication outreach group based at Anschutz Medical Campus, to determine this year's awardees and we're thrilled to support NINE student researchers this season.

This year's awarded projects represented a range of disciplines from genetic engineering as a learning model to a device to reduce blue light pollution, a study of air quality in hospitals to an experiment on microplastics in our soil. Every student awarded a grant presented at this year's science fair.

### PRESEASON EVENTS

The DMRSEF is more than an annual competition, it's a season-long program that supports students through the entire research process.

From the first spark of an idea through a fully developed scientific presentation, our Competition Ready Series helps students get from start to science fair. This year the DMRSEF Team hosted six workshops aimed at preparing students for each phase of the science fair preparation process

#### Science Fair Workshops

Get yourself and your project fair-ready with specialized workshops for every step of the way!

December 2023							
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	S
					1	2	Г
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	1
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	2
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	2
31							

January 2024							
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				
				25	20		

Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29				

- Monday, December 11th 6-7p: Paperwork Workshop
- Wednesday, January 10th 6-7p: Paperwork Workshop
- Thursday, January 25th 6-7p: Materials Workshop
- Thursday, February 8th 6-7p: Interview Workshop
- Thursday, February 15th 6-8p: Interview Practices
- Wednesday, February 21st 6-8p: Interview Practices



#### OUTREACH (J-KOA)

Josepha's Kapamilya for Outreach and Advancement (J-KOA) in STEAM, an outreach branch of DMRSEF, was founded in September of 2022 by graduate students and staff from CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Their goal is to get the word out about the fair in the hopes of encouraging more students—especially those from underrepresented backgrounds and rural communities—to compete. J-KOA volunteers are professional scientists, and non-scientists alike—many of whom come from underreprésented backgrounds themselves. During events, volunteers tell their own STEAM stories and lead hands-on science demos with students.









"We tell our stories with the theme that every student is capable of doing science if they want to regardless of who tells them that they can't."

-Koya Conradson, J-KOA President

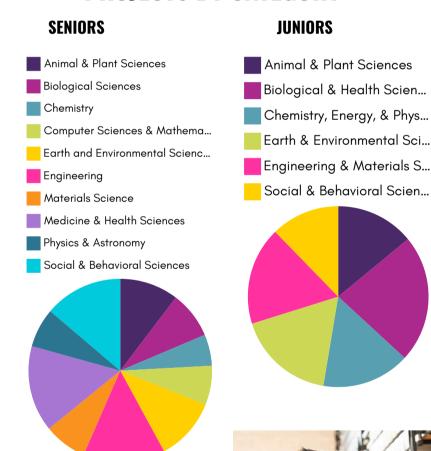
## 2024 DMRSEF

The CoorsTek Denver Metro Regional Science & Engineering Fair (DMRSEF) empowers the next generation of STEM professionals by fostering an enthusiasm for science and inquiry. Our annual event, held each February at CU Denver, offers students an opportunity to engage the Denver metro STEM community and to present their original research in an atmosphere of competition, creativity, education, and fun. All middle and high school students (grades 6-12) from the eight Denver metro counties (Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson, and Summit) are eligible to compete in the DMRSEF. The 2024 DMRSEF would not have been possible without our 220+ student participants, nearly 200+ judges and volunteers, numerous fair partner organizations, and the dedication of our year-round committee members. This year over 150 Category and Special Awards were judged and awarded to over 100 science fair projects.





#### **PROJECTS BY CATEGORY**



## CHECK OUT THE VIRTUAL PROJECT SHOWCASE:

symposium.foragerone.com/2024dmrsef/presentations

#### **SPEAK WITH A SCIENTIST**

At the 2024 DMRSEF, students had the chance to take a break from judging and networking with their peers and enjoy one of two panel discussions aimed at exploring the career paths and research interests of nine local STEM professionals.

Thank you to the following guests for sharing your time and expertise with our student researchers:

Daniel Ross - CoorsTek

Dr. Ivan Ramirez - CU Denver

John Jenkins - NSA Colorado

Dr. Jamie M Hodgkins - CU Denver

Dr. Aimee Bernard - CU Anschutz

Dr. Parveen Dhillon, NREL

Ryan Pfeiffer - Lockheed Martin

Dr. Matthew Witkowski - CU Anschutz

Dr. Rohit Chitanala - National Renewable Energy Lab













### **EXPLORING HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES AND STEAM CAREERS**

Following final rounds of judging, students also had the opportunity to engage with various companies, organizations, and CU Denver departments to learn about careers, take part in hands-on activities, and more with groups including:

CoorsTek
NSA Colorado
Denver International Airport
Ball Aerospace
Think Like A Scientist
Girl Scouts of Colorado
Neuroscience Outreach Group
UCD Student Government Association
UCD American Indian Student Services
UCD First Year Experiences
CU Anschutz Division of Pulmonary Sciences & Critical Care Medicine

DMRSEF Student Advisory Council
UCD College of Engineering, Design, and Computing
UCD University Honors and Leadership Program
UCD Physics Department
UCD Anthropology Department
J-JOA (DMRSEF Outreach Committee)
UCD Environmental Stewardship of Indigenous Lands

#### THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE





"I think one of the greatest things that I learned from the science fair was how to interact with other people who are interested in similar things to me and into entirely different things. The beauty of the science fair is that we have people who are interested in engineering, who are interested in math, who are interested in computer science and physics and biology. I think that's a really incredible element of science fair – introducing you to people who think differently than you do, who approach problems differently, and who are interested in totally different fields, and yet you have the common interest of science fair that allows you to become both academic colleagues and also really close friends."

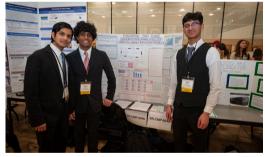
"I also learned so much more about myself through doing the science fair process. I learned a lot about how I cope with things like stress, or how to plan efficiently and think critically, cause a lot of science fair is problem-solving and I think that's a really important skill to develop early on. But I also learned skills like how to be a clear communicator and how to build rapport ... I think the science fair really prepared me to speak to other people in a manner that was clear and concise."

"This is the best fair. The Denver fair is the best fair far and away...

[not all kids] get the kinds of support we get here at the Denver fair.

These kids, if they do go on to state or internationals, they support them the whole way, So, hurray! You're so lucky to live in one of these counties, it is the best regional fair!"









"This idea of going into the science fair and expecting that you're only going to present to judges, talk about research, and leave is insane. There are people all up and down the rows that are going to start talking to you, and even the people you are 'directly competing with' are your friends. It's so interesting to go and meet people that share the same interests as you and even different interests than you, but everybody is working for the same goal. It's fun! That's the main thing you gain from it, is how many people you are going to be able to relate to and converse with. That was what I found was most beneficial"

## **AWARDS CEREMONY**







101
Winning
Projects





\$12,000+

#### **BEST IN FAIR**

#### **Senior Division Best in Fair**

lst Place – **Tristan Cao** – Towards Realization of Novel Quantum Materials via Magneto-Synthesis

2nd Place – **Amy Zhang** – Feel The Ball: Convert Ball Motion to Touch for Vision/Hearing-Impaired Sport Audiences

3rd Place – **Elsa Vossler** – Detention Basin Systems

1st Alt – **Ani Gadepalli** – Predictive Football Analysis

2nd Alt – **Ersel Serdar** – Bending Fire: A New Approach to Steer Rockets Using Electric Fields

#### **Junior Division Best in Fair**

lst Place - **Tess Price** - Polymerization Using Alginate Spherification
2nd Place - **Anirudh Rao** - An Early Tornado Warning System
3rd Place - **Varun Velmurugan** - Water Purification: A Solution for Fluoride Contamination
Honorable Mention - **Vedanth Raju** - Curcaaza: An effective topical nanogel to help tackle antibiotic resistance

#### **CHECK OUT THE FULL LIST OF WINNERS HERE:**

clas.ucdenver.edu/denversciencefair/sites/default/files/ attached-files/2024\_awards\_list\_for\_website.pdf

## **BEYOND DMRSEF**



The Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge is the nation's premier middle school STEM competition. The JIC, a program of Society for Science, aims to inspire young scientists, engineers, and innovators who will solve the grand challenges of the future.

Congratulations to the following nominees:

Sunand Bhandaram Ashton Power Tess Price

Vedanth Raju Anirudh Rao Varun Velmurugan

#### **COORSTEK SITE VISIT**

Per tradition, the top award recipients from the 2023 DMRSEF got a sneak peek at what goes on at the CoorsTek research and development facility. Students toured high-tech labs and participated in handson learning about the ways technical ceramics are created and utilized every day. Thank you to our hosts at CoorsTek for this fun and enlightening opportunity!







#### COLORADO SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

DMRSEF was thrilled to nominate 48 students to compete at the 2024 Colorado Science and Engineering Fair (CSEF). Held on April 11-13, 2024 at Colorado State University Fort Collins. Our students' hard work paid off once again in the form of 21 Category Awards and 47 Special Awards and Scholarships!



**21** 

Speci

DMRSEF Students Category Awards Special Awards

https://csef.natsci.colostate.edu/wp-content/ uploads/2024/04/Press-Release-2024.pdf











## INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

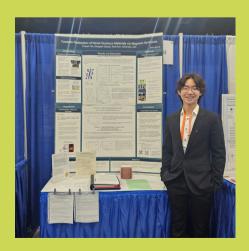
Los Angeles, CA May 12 - 17, 2024



The Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (Regeneron ISEF), a program of Society for Science for over 70 years, is the world's largest global science competition for high school students. Through a global network of local, regional, and national science fairs, millions of students are encouraged to explore their passion for scientific inquiry. Each spring, a group of these students is selected as finalists and offered the opportunity to compete for approximately \$9 million in awards and scholarships.

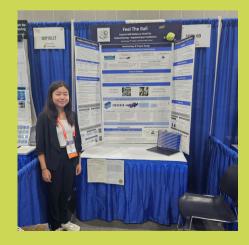
This year, three brilliant DMRSEF finalists travel to Los Angeles, California for a week packed with everything from a private night at Universal Studios to speaking live with an astronaut aboard the International Space Station to exploring the world of outer space at Griffith Observatory – of course culminating in the presentation of their year's work at ISEF. Over 1,800 students from around 70 countries competed, representing the best from their respective regional, state, and national science fairs.

#### **MEET THE FINALISTS:**



TRISTAN CAO

Stargate Charter School 10th Grade



**AMY ZHANG** 

Lakewood High School
9th Grade



**ELSA VOSSLER** 

Denver School of the Arts
11th Grade





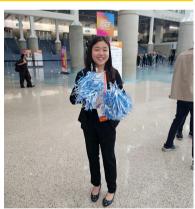


"I had an incredible time at ISEF! I gained a sense of independence and got to meet so many cool people and learn from incredible research! I loved having thought-provoking conversations with them and being able to relay my passion and excitement to people who understood the excitement of scientific research! ... It may be an exhausting week but it was such an incredible once-in-a-lifetime opportunity"

"The biggest thing I gained from ISEF was a deeper interest in a wider variety of science subjects.

Addressing pressing problems in our modern days requires great thinkers in many subjects, and seeing all the projects at ISEF definitely made me more interested in topics I had previously not taken a deeper dive into, just by giving me a taste of how pressing the issue they were addressing was, and how finalists came up with a solution."





#### **SCIENCE FAIR: THE SERIES**



Ready to experience the thrill of making it to the International Science and Engineering Fair? Follow science fair participants from around the world (and even here in Colorado) as they compete to win their spot at ISEF! (Featuring a guest appearance from the DMRSEF Team and our 2022 ISEF finalists!)

You can stream Science Fair the Series NOW on Hulu and Disney+

Science Fair: The Series | Official Trailer

#### **SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH**

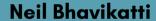
Regeneron STS is the nation's oldest and most prestigious science competition for high school seniors, providing an important forum for original research that is recognized and reviewed by a national jury of professional scientists. Annually, nearly 2,000 high school seniors from around the country accept the challenge of conducting independent science, math, or engineering research and completing an entry for the Regeneron Science Talent Search. The competition recognizes 300 student scholars and their schools each year and invites 40 student finalists to Washington, D.C. to participate in final judging, display their work to the public, and meet with notable scientists and government leaders.

#### TWO DMRSEF STUDENTS WERE NAMED IN THE STS TOP 300:

#### **Aditi Avinash**

Rock Canyon High School, CO

Project Title: Model Validation and Preclinical
Testing of Digestive Enzymes for Gluten Breakdown: A
Move To Cure Gluten Intolerance and Celiac Disease



Cherry Creek High School, CO

Project Title: On Algorithmic Cache Optimization









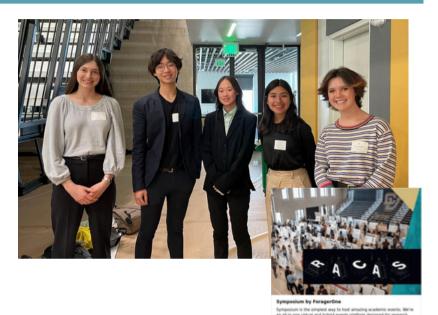
## DMRSEF ALUMNI, ADITI AVINASH, WAS NAMED AN STS TOP 40 FINALIST!

Aditi Avinash, 17, of Castle Pines, found a mixture of three enzymes that she believes could one day be used to reduce the effects of gluten intolerance for her Regeneron Science Talent Search medicine and health project. Aditi tested three enzymes derived from fruits that had previously been shown to break down gluten proteins in experimental settings mimicking the acidic stomach environment.

Aditi was named the Seaborg Award winner and given the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Regeneron Science Talent Search Class of 2024. The 40 finalists chose Aditi as the student who most exemplifies their class and the extraordinary attributes of nuclear chemist Glenn T. Seaborg, who won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1951 and served on the Society's Board of Trustees for 30 years.

## RECOGNITION IN THE DENVER RESEARCH COMMUNITY

## RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES SYMPOSIUM



The Research and Creative Activities Symposium (RaCAS) is an annual opportunity for CU Denver undergraduate and graduate students to showcase their scholarly activities.

Each year over 200 presenters share the research and creative projects they've worked on throughout the academic year. Together with peers, faculty, family, and friends, they celebrate CU Denver's community of investigation and creative inquiry.

This April, five DMRSEF students presented their research to the community at RaCAS where they were able to experience all the thrills of a collegiate-level research conference alongside current CU Denver students! Congratulations to Amanda Castillo-Lopez, Caitlin Dong, Tristan Cao, Kyra Jordan, and Elsa Vossler!

### **LEARN MORE ABOUT RACAS:**WWW.UCDENVER.FDU/SITES/RESEARCH-DAY

#### GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR HIGH IMPACT RESEARCH

This spring, DMRSEF winners from the 2024 Colorado Science & Engineering Fair (CSEF) were celebrated the the Governor's Awards for High Impact Research. Students and their families were invited to a reception at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, where their hard work and innovative research were acknowledged alongside some of Colorado's leading scientists and federal labs. Congratulations to Ella Seevers, Cole Gropp, and Aditi Avinash for this honor!



#### **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The DMRSEF Community Advisory Council brings together fair alumni, parents, teachers, community organizations, and partners to strengthen our commitment to diversifying the DMRSEF community and bringing new voices to the table as we map out the future of our fair. Community Advisory Council meetings are held quarterly and provide a source of inspiration as council members envision new avenues to expand the reach of the fair. We are thankful to our advisory council members for their commitment to empowering student scientists. Thank you to the following individuals who served on the council this year:

Anna Crawford
Ashley Clutter
Bharathi Rao
Casey Davenhill
Courtney Buttler
David Hook

Jennifer Piche John Jenkins Kaitlin LaFlamme Kat Yelenick Kevin Nugent Lori Twehues Meredith Tennis Mike Ferrara Mindy Hanson Pam Jansma Randel Mercer Robert Sanchez Vijay Ijju

#### **OPERATING COMMITTEE**

The science fair would not be possible without the support of our amazing Operating Committee. This team of volunteers shares their time, expertise, and skills each year to make the fair a reality. Our Operating Committee meets monthly from September to May. They help to organize the fair schedule, lead the Scientific Review Committee, support outreach events, advertise the fair, and ensure the fair is both fun and logistically feasible. The DMRSEF team is incredibly grateful for the dedication of the Operating Committee.

Thank you to the following individuals who served on this year's committee:

Ashley Clutter Brian Jackson Courtney Butler Courtney Wilson Hannah Moran Jesse Hinckley Kelsi Dew Koya Conradson Padma Avinash Pam Nagafuji Tricia Ahr Zach Richards

#### STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Student Advisory Council is a group of passionate student alumni that meet monthly with the DMRSEF Team, acting as the bridge between participants and the fair. Their goal is to ensure all students can participate in the fair and aim to make resources equitable and accessible to students across the Denver Metro area. They volunteer to help run pre-season events, offer their mentorship to fellow students, and provide a student perspective in fair decision-making - all honing in on important skills such as teamwork, collaboration, and critical thinking. **Thank you to** 

the following council members:

Aanshi Shah Aditi Avinash Ayan Vaishnav Cedar Wine Elizabeth Vossler Ersel Serdar

Evelyn Seevers Rhys Hanson Sasank Vepa

## THANK YOU TO THIS YEAR'S VOLUNTEERS AND JUDGES

**EMILY AARON** LU ACQUAVELLA RYAN ADLER HARSHIT AGARWAL MOHAMMAD AL-AMIN KAITLIN ALEMANY AYA ALI **LEIGH ALLEN ADITI AVINASH** LINDSAY BAGBY SABRINA BALL - AMES JENNA BANH **BRITTON BARBEE** CODY BARKMAN VARUNAVI BATTULA KIRANA BERGSTROM JACOB BERMAN DANIEL BERNAL KATIE BIDNE **BRUNO BOHN** LEE BOLLACKER MAC BOYLE DANIEL BRACK NICOLE BROWN ABIGAIL BUELL **TYLER BURT COURTNEY BUTLER** CHAD CAMP **KEVIN CASH** ABIGAIL RUIZ CASTILLO JUANA CERNA YINGAN CHEN SHI BIAO CHIA CECILIA CLARK **GREG COCKS** ANNAROSE CRAIG MARY KATE DAVIES JIMMY DEMAYO **BRIAN DEMPSEY** JATIN DESAI

**COURTNEY DUGGAN** KEIRA DUNHAM DAVID ECKHARDT STEVE EDDY ALEXIS EDRICH CHLOE EVANS-WHITLEY **NALA FAKHRO** DANA FAKHRO KIM FARRIS LISBET FINSETH **ANGELLINA FIORETTO** FLISSA FLAUMENHAFT DARCY FLORA **CATHARINE FLOWERS** LINDSEY FOUST KENNETH GARCIA JUSTIN GARCIA-GRACE ABIGAIL GEBREMARIAM **RYAN GEE** JAYME GOODRUM STEPHANIE GREWENOW **CLAIRE GRIECO COLE GROPP DANIEL GUERRANT** KIRSTEN GWIN LAUREN HABENICHT **TSENAAT HADGU EVELYN HANES RHYS HANSON** JAMES HANULIK KALPANA HANUMANTHARAO KAITLIN HARRIS RAELYNN HATAKEYAMA SYDNEY HAYDEN MELISSA HERNANDEZ MIKAYLA HERNANDEZ **DAVID HOOK AMY HOPKINS ELLA HOUSE** YASAMEEN HOUSINI MAYA HUNTER

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN PUVIKKARASAN JAYAPRAGASAM JENNIFER JEWELL **ROBERT JOLLY** JULIE JURKOWSKI RAMA KANT SAAHITHI KASA SARAH KELLER KYOUNG NAN KIM MOLLY KOCIALSKI KAMRYN KORTH RACHAEL KOSTELECKY NIDHI KOTECHA REBECCA KREIDLER ANTON KUCERA MAYDHA KUMAR PERPETUAL KYEI **ALAINI LANGSTON** CAROLYNE LANYERO DARIA LAZARENKO SARAH LEVENTHAL BEN-ZHENG LI ZHENGXIONG LI ZHESHUO LI KENN LINK KATHERINE LLOYD **ADRIANNA LONG ETHAN LONG KEVIN LOWDER** MAXWELL LOWRY LAURIE LYON **IVY-QUYNH MACARAEG GINA MAGGIANI** TAHA MALIK **ELAN MARKOV IVY MARTINEZ RUBY MARTINI** KINZIE MATZELLER SHELLY MCCAIN SCOTT MCINTYRE **NEHA MEHRA** 

RANDEL MERCER **DAVID MERRIAM** TOM MILLIGAN **CELINE MIRA** KATHRYN MIRANDETTE LYDIA MITCHELL ANDREW MIZENER PETER MONTANO **VENUS MONTESINOS EMILY MORGAN** SRINIMISHA MORKONDA -**GNANASEKARAN** DAVID MORTON **GENEVIEVE MOYER** SHANNON MURPHY **BEN NATHAN** SKYE NAVARRO SIENA NEGRON SAVANNAH NELSON CATHERINE NICHOLAS JAMIE NIESZ MICHELLE NOLEN ZARINA NUSRIDDINOVA CAROL O'CONNOR LINDSAY OSSO SIVA PALAKOLLU **BRANDON PANZA** SWETA PATEL REEGAL PATEL MIMI PEIRSON **EMMY PETERSON KEYIA PHELPS** NIRMALA RAI **EMMA RANSOM** JULIE REVERS SHANE RIDOUX **GUILLAUME RIESEN** AIKA RIESER **LONDON ROLLINS DONNY ROUSH EMILY RUEGGE** 

**MAYSON RUFF** LOGAN RUTHARDT **VICTOR RUTHIG ROBERT SANCHEZ** MRUNMAYI SAOJI JENN SCHILLING SAM SCHLEISMAN **ASH SCHMITT ELLA SEEVERS** STEPHANIE SEEVERS **CHLOE SEIBERT** PRATHAM SHARMA SAVANNAH SHERARD SUDIKCHYA SHRESTHA SAHIRA SILVA KATE SMETANA SOPHIE SOWARD **ALAN STEPNESKI** SYDNEY SUTTON **VIRIDIAN TABER** JULIE TANNEHILL SCOTT THOMPSON **SOUHA TIFOUR** TATIANA TORRES **CATHERINE TRUONG LORI TWEHUES** STACY UYEDA DEBORAH ESPINOZA VARELA **LUIS VASQUEZ** SASANK VEPA **RICH VOSSLER KYLE WARNER BILL WEMMERT CEDAR WINE** LACEE WINN ANTONETTE WISMER **ASHINI WITHANAGE** JULIE WOLFSON **ALISON XIE** KATHRYN YELENICK JIUCAI ZHANG

At DMRSEF, we repeatedly say that it takes a village to run a science fair—and you are that village. We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our volunteers and judges for the invaluable role you play in shaping the journeys of our students as they aspire to become STEM professionals themselves. We understand that your time and hard work are significant commitments, and we truly appreciate your dedication. Your efforts make a meaningful difference in their lives, helping them realize that they have what it takes to succeed in these fields. As we mentioned at the start of this report, by being part of the DMRSEF community, you are empowering these students to redefine what a scientist looks like, paving the way for a more inclusive and diverse future in STEM.

## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



#### Mark your calendars...

## 2025 DISSEF

Denver Science Fair: Friday, February 28, 2025

Awards Ceremony: Sunday, March 2, 2025