



SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT INC.

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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### **Science Fair winners receive awards at 2005 International Science Fair – Nine Students from Detroit area win \$159,800 in prizes**

In a total of three award ceremonies, nine students from the Detroit Metro area and six students from other regional areas in Michigan won numerous prestigious awards at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair held in Phoenix, Arizona. This year represents the most awards received by the Michigan Delegation in the history of the International Science and Engineering Fair. These special awards were presented on May 12-13, 2005 and consisted of key awards from scientific, professional and educational organizations, governmental organizations, and overall category awards.

**Samuel Modun Bhagwat, 16**, Winston Churchill High School, Livonia, Michigan.

Project title: “Classification of Determinantal Sequences”

**Mathematics Category** – Fourth Place Award of \$500

**American Mathematics Society** – Second Place Award of \$500

**Alexander Chernyak, 17**, International Academy, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Project title: “Polarization Dynamics of Ytterbium Doped Silica Fiber Laser”

**Department of Homeland Security** - \$20,000 portable, undergraduate scholarship (\$5,000 per year for 4 years)

**U.S. Army** – First Place Award of \$3,000 in savings bonds, a certificate of achievement and a gold medallion

**Indiana University** – Partial tuition scholarship of \$20,000 (\$5,000 per year for four years)

**Nicholas Samir Ekladyous, 13**, Cranbrook Kingswood School, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Project title: 15-Passenger Vans: Predicting the Probability and Timing of Rollovers using Artificial Neural Networks”

**Computer Science Category** – Fourth Place Award of \$500

**Jessica Lynn Laviolette, 17**, Brandon High School, Ortonville, Michigan.

Project title: "Production of Ethanol by Vacuum Process"

**DuPont** – Honorable Mention Award of \$500

**Yunchao Susan Lou, 16**, Wylie E. Groves High School, Beverly Hills, Michigan.

Project title: "Alarm Triggered Shut Off Appliance (ATSAS)"

**United Technologies Corporation** – UTC Stock with an approximate value of \$2,000

**Sohan Venkat Mikkilineni, 16 and Shravani Mikkilineni, 14 (brother and sister)**, Detroit Country Day School, Beverly Hills, Michigan.

Project title: "A Study of Teratogenesis in *Oryzias latipes* "

**Team Category** – Second Place Award of \$1,500

**Shilpa Naresh Raja, 17**, West Bloomfield High School, West Bloomfield, Michigan.

Project title: "Dendritic Polymer-Insulin Conjugates/Nanodevices for Oral Insulin Delivery: A System for Optimal Bioavailability in Type 1 Diabetes"

**Medicine and Health Category** – Third Place Award of \$1,000

**U.S. Air Force** – Second Place Award of \$1,500

**Endocrine Society** – Honorable Mention Award

**Katharine Anne Symanow, 16**, Divine Child High School, Dearborn, Michigan.

Project title: "An intensity equalization procedure to improve the display of color images"

**Computer Science Category** – Fourth Place Award of \$500

**Association for Computing Machinery** – Third Award of \$300

**U.S. Air Force** – First Place Award of \$3,000

**Drexel University** – Full tuition scholarship of \$105,000

**Other winners from the State of Michigan included five students earning an additional \$6,000 in prize money and awards are:**

**Srikanth Aravamuthan, 17**, Kalamazoo Area Mathematics and Science Center, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Project title: "A Viable Method of Extraction of 12-Alpha Fumitremorgin C from *A. Fumigatus*"

**Chemistry Category** – Third Place Award of \$1,000

**Sarah DeWitt Nagel, 15**, Mecosta Osceola Math, Science & Technology Center, Big Rapids, Michigan.

Project title: "Water Purification Systems for Rural Areas"

**Environmental Science Category** – Fourth Place Award of \$500

**Cameron Alexander Martin, 17**, Imlay City High School, Imlay City, Michigan.

Project title: "The Design and Testing of a Shuttle Inspection Vehicle's Guidance and Imaging Systems"

**Space Science** – Fourth Place Award of \$500

**U.S. Air Force** – First Award of \$3,000

**Chen Wang, 16**, Huron High School, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Project title: "Implication and Formation of Silane Based Optical Coatings with Organic and Inorganic Compounds to Prohibit UV Radiation"

**Chemistry Category** – Fourth Place Award of \$500

**Yiqian Zheng, 18**, Kalamazoo Area Mathematics and Science Center, Kalamazoo, Michigan.  
Project title: “*Sinorhizobium meliloti* Inositol Catabolism Genes and Their Role in Symbiotic Nitrogen Fixation”

**Biochemistry** – Fourth Place Award of \$500

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“The Science and Engineering Fair of Metro Detroit is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting science and engineering discovery in students in 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The Science and Engineering Fair of Metropolitan Detroit is the largest one of its kind in the country. The Fair is open to all students who are dedicated to expanding their knowledge and understanding of the world around them.”