



San Luis Valley Regional

Science Fair, Inc.

2022 Annual Report

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The San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

From start to finish, and at all levels of participation, the science fair experience is one not only of competition but also of camaraderie, creativity, cooperation, and education. This is the essence of the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair.

Established in 1949, the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization, which holds a regional competition each year. More than 800 students from the San Luis Valley participate in Science Fair at their schools. The purpose of the fair is to stimulate student interest and encourage the students in science and engineering by recognition of their abilities and achievements.

This year's winners were chosen from among 205 exhibits presented by 220 finalists including seven students in teams. These finalists represented ten public school districts, home-schoolers from the San Luis Valley, and students from one private school. More than 150 judges, including professional scientists, engineers, medical professionals, mathematicians, and advanced Adams State University students, interview the students and evaluate their projects before selecting the winners. In addition, there were also businesses, professional societies, and government agencies that provide their own representatives to help judge exhibits based on their criteria. These judges confer the Special Awards, including scholarships, summer internships, cash, medals, and scientific calculators, which represents an aspect of the bestowing organization. Jeff Storm virtually announced the awards via FaceBook Live .

In addition, receiving the rare opportunity to speak with working scientists, SLV Regional Science Fair students participate in three grade level divisions for the grand awards in a number of categories: Behavioral and Social Science, Biomedical Science, Botany, Chemistry, Consumer Science, Earth and Space Science , Engineering, Environmental Science, Mathematics and Computer Science, Physics and Zoology.

Participating in Science Fair is one of the few activities that expect students to integrate virtually all areas of their academic development. They use the library for literature reviews, history and research; the students execute experimentation and generally complete mathematical analysis; they write reports; they utilize artistic styles in the preparation of their presentation boards; and they are expected to orally present their projects to the judges. Awards are also given for technical writing, oratory skills, display, originality, and overall projects. Winning Junior and Senior division projects are awarded trips to the Colorado Science & Engineering Fair, which is held in Fort Collins, Colorado. In addition, the two senior division students with outstanding overall projects are awarded an all-expense paid trip to the Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair. The regional fair was held as a virtual fair this past year. Our students participated in an in person fair for both the Colorado State Science Fair and the International Fair. Although the International Fair was a hybrid with a number of students also participating virtually.

Many educational experiences are made available to students who participate in the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair. Recent programs have included Science from CU; the Alamogordo Space Center; Mobil Ed Productions; Physics is Fun; the Denver Museum of Nature and Science; Visible Productions and Mike Mullane (Ret.), NASA Astronaut. Recently the program featured was "Bat Tales" in which students learned about the world's only flying mammals, about the diversity and natural history of these often misunderstood animals, and why bat conservation is important. Museum specimens gave students a close look at several species of bats native to Colorado.

The judges' interviews and the educational programs allow the students to interact with professional scientists and engineers and with each other. Many students have said that having the chance to meet and speak with their peers about their science projects is the most beneficial aspect of the SLV Regional Science Fair.

Scholarships from Adams State University and other organizations are also presented. Adams State University awards \$3,000 in scholarships for outstanding science fair participants who have a desire to further their education at ASU. The San Luis Valley Research Center - Colorado State University, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture - offers a \$900 summer internship to a San Luis Valley student, in grades eight through twelve, who shows excellence in the field of potato research, from the Botany category. A family scholarship was established several years ago that is awarded to a graduating senior student that will be attending Colorado State University and majoring in a field of science.

The San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair is devoted to increasing the academic involvement and excellence between all fourth through twelfth grade students in our region. Student winners from each category are presented monetary awards. There are also many local and national awards that are presented to deserving student participants. With the help of our local sponsors and contributors, the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair is able to present \$28,000 (either in monetary awards, scholarships, all-expense paid trips to the international fair or material awards) to the outstanding students of our region.

Organization

The San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair would not be possible without the dedication and tremendous efforts of many committed individuals, as well as public and private organizations, school districts, Adams State University, government agencies, corporations, professional associations, and local businesses. These groups sustain the Fair through their financial and resource support, special awards, and most importantly, through providing dedicated volunteers to serve on the Fair's working committees and/or Board of Directors. Many of these businesses not only make monetary donations, but also allow their employees to serve as judges for the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair. Prior to this regional event, some local school fairs are conducted throughout the region. Each of these fairs is supported by hardworking and dedicated educators at the local school level. Before a student's project is accepted at the Regional Fair, it requires the encouragement and support from individual teachers, science fair coordinators, and parents to help the student see their project from conception to the finished exhibit. The success of the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair is dependent on all of these dedicated individuals.

To organize and stage the Fair every year requires a great effort by many people, but it also offers many personal challenges and rewards. To witness the level of achievement, pride, and excitement of these bright young people in their scientific endeavors is one of the rewards that all volunteers of the Fair share. It also speaks of the high level of students' aptitude and enthusiasm for science in the San Luis Valley.

Mission Statement

The San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair is an organization that:

- Honors winners from local San Luis Valley school fairs at an annual Regional Science Fair
- Sends finalists from the Regional Science Fair to the Colorado Science and Engineering Fair (CSEF)
- Provides two overall winners at the Regional Science Fair with an all-expense paid trip to participate in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)
- Encourages students to pursue careers in science, technology, mathematics, or engineering
- Provides a forum for developing academic skills, such as conducting an independent scientific investigation, writing a research paper, speaking, preparing an organized display, and becoming familiar with the scientific method.

The San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair supports local school fairs by:

- Providing a forum where local fairs can influence policies, rules, and by-laws of the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair
- Providing rules and requirements for participation in all fairs – Regional, State, and International.
- Coordinate mentors
- Provides judges and critique at local school fairs.

Impact Statement

The following represent some of the impacts the San Luis Valley Regional Fair has had on the San Luis Valley:

- Awareness, appreciation, and recognition of the importance of science in our society, livelihoods, academic achievement and lifelong success
- An increased awareness of academic competition and the importance of science among Valley educators
- An increased quality of educational activities in all schools in the region
- An increased usage of libraries and the Internet
- An increased exposure to robotics, holography, pathology, space art, moon geology, and the scientific method to the general public.

* * *

All these years later, I still love that butterfly logo as it symbolizes discovery, growth and change. Years later, I still follow the science fair (through the Valley Courier mostly) and actively participate as a judge at the Ohio State Science Day (Ohio's State Fair). Over the years, I have judged fairs in Texas and Massachusetts as I reside there. I have always been impressed that the SLV Regional Science Fair does a great job with the number of awards and acknowledgment it gives to its participants; our future. The quality and depth of work the students do is amazing. I feel fortunate to have been able to be a part of the SLV regional Science Fair; and again, the fair does an exceptional job of providing students with the opportunity to show that science is alive and done extremely well even in rural areas of the world.

Congratulations to all the participants and thank you to all the enthusiastic science teachers, volunteers and those who donate to keep this as a vital way of giving students the opportunity to challenge themselves to be curious about science and expand their ability to stretch their imagination. -Cliff Percy, Monte Vista High School Alumni

Top Winners of the 2022 San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair

COLORADO AWARD WINNERS

The following students were chosen to represent the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair at the Colorado State Science Fair:

Senior Division

Chinmay Jayanty – Sargent High School	Gabriela Rodriquez-Justice Heritage Academy
Augustus Miller –Monte Vista High School	Claire Seger-Monte High School
Marissa Martinez – Monte Vista High School	Maria Sears-Monte High School
Chloe Hindes – Monte Vista High School	Ada Pence/Hannah Shelton-Centauri High
Carlos Ochoa-Marquez–Monte Vista High School	

Junior Division

Jakoby Ross – Monte Vista Middle School	Kyra Griffin – Sargent Middle School
Makenzie Consaul-Sargent Middle School	Dietrich Smith- Sargent Middle School
Will Walker-Sargent Middle School	Parker Mitchell- Sargent Middle School
Addison Roepke-Sargent Middle School	Catherine Deacon-Sargent Middle School
Kimberly and Kandace Pargin-Sargent Middle School	

Regeneron/ISEF WINNERS

The following two students were chosen to represent the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair:

Claire Seger-Monte Vista High School Marissa Martinez –Monte Vista High School

Alternate Regeneron/ISEF WINNER

Chloe Hindes – Monte Vista High School

Junior Observer Award

Parker Mitchell- Sargent Middle School

TEACHER AWARDS

The following teachers were chosen to attend the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair:

Loree Harvey - Monte Vista High School

Gina Mitchell- Sargent Middle School

SCHOOL AWARDS

The following School Awards are based on the total tabulations of all Grand

Awards received by their students:

Small Elementary School	Sierra Grande Elementary
Large Elementary School	Bill Metz Elementary
Small Middle School	Sargent Middle School
Small Middle School	Sierra Grande Middle School
Large Middle School	Monte Vista Middle School
Small High School	Justice & Heritage Academy
Large High School	Monte Vista High School

ASSIGNED WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Fair Director: Lucy Adams

The Fair Director is actively involved in all working committees hereto mentioned and is an ex-officio member of the SLV Regional Science Fair Board of Directors. Lucy will remain on the board of directors and is currently training a new Fair Director, Ronna Cochran for the 2021-2022 year.

Awards Ceremony: SLV Regional Science Fair Board of Directors

Joy DiCamillo

Judy Prester

Tayler Rocha

Display and Safety: Dr. Curtis Crawford

Finance: SLV Regional Science Fair Board of Directors

Publishing: Joy DiCamillo and Judy Prester

Registration: SLV Regional Science Fair Board of Directors

Regular Judging: Diana Jones – Judge Coordinator

Room Setup: SLV Regional Science Fair Board of Directors

Monte Vista High School

MESA/Science Club

ASU Facilities

Scientific Review Committee: Dr. Larry Sveum – Chair

Curtis Crawford- DVM

Ms. Jody Oaks

Dr. Neil Rigsbee

Dr. Marty Jones

Ms. Loree Harvey

Website Committee: Julie Messick

Tayler Rocha

- **Because of COVID , a virtual fair replaced our physical fair.**

Highlights of the San Luis Valley Regional

Science Fair for 2022

2022! What a year it has been and is! The San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair had its 73rd birthday. This regional science fair is one of the oldest in the country. Thank goodness for the inspiration, wisdom and intuition that the Adams State professors and community people had so many years ago.

Three students were awarded the honor of attending the Regeneron ISEF, which was held in Atlanta, Georgia this past May. The ISEF fair was very different this year. There was a physical fair for the students that felt comfortable and that were vaccinated and there was also a virtual fair held at the same time for those students that could not enter the United States or that they did not feel comfortable being in this huge arena. One of our students was placed as a third place winner in the Environmental Engineering category. Another student placed 4th in the Animal Science category and was also awarded two different scholarships to two different colleges.

The 2022 Regional Fair had a total of 220 students that participated this past spring. There were a total of 205 projects at the fair. Five public high schools, six public middle and nine public elementary schools participated in the fair this past year. We also had several students from a private school that had participants in the elementary, middle and high school divisions.

Eighteen junior and senior students were awarded the honor of representing the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair at the Colorado State Science and Engineering Fair. The CSEF was held as a physical fair this past spring. Students, teachers and parents were all so pleased to be attending the State Fair in person once again. In the senior Grand Awards there were four place awards and two Honorable Mentions. At the Junior Division there were two place awards and four Honorable Mentions.

Thirteen of our students placed in the special awards. One of our high school students received scholarship.

The website, SLVRSF.org has material for our teachers, parents and students linked on it. There is also a registration form for our judges. Student registration for the 2023 fair will be available at a later date. One may also find the Board of Directors, the mission statement and history of SLVRSF on the website.

New contributors and visitors to the site are able to view information on how to donate/contribute to the fair.

Additional support to the SLV Regional Science Fair can be given by using GoodSearch, GoodShop, Razoo and AmazonSmiles. Links may be found by visiting our website at:

SLVRSF.org

Another great year for the San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair!



At this time I would like to personally thank each and every one of you for supporting our valley students with their science discoveries, over the years and encourage you to continue these endeavors. Thank You- Lucy Adams

When I decided to participate in the Science Fair for the first time last year as a freshman, I had no idea what was in store for me. Hearing that I had placed first in my category, and qualified for both State and International Science Fair during the Regional Science Fair I was ecstatic for what lay ahead. What stood out to me the most during the State Science Fair was, after judging day we were each left with an envelope with judges' comments on our projects. I was able to use these comments to improve my project for ISEF and therefore build my confidence on my familiarity with my project.

As qualifying for ISEF seemed to be an unattainable accomplishment to me, I was in shock that I had actually qualified for it. Lining up on judging day to present my project with hundreds of other students was one of the most nerve wracking experiences for me. I had done what I never dreamed attainable for myself. Presenting my project, and having in depth conversations with the judges was an experience I will never forget. Meeting students from across the world during the pin exchange was an exciting opportunity to expand my knowledge of science and to build lasting friendships with some of the students. Going forward in the next three years of high school, ISEF is serving as a huge motivation for me to reach for what is beyond in science.

Sincerely,

Claire Seger, Monte Vista High School

Science fair was one of the best experiences of my life. It created so many opportunities in my academic and personal career. I have always been a STEM nerd so being able to compete while doing something I love was so fun. Being able to have meaningful conversations with peers and judges was so inspiring and changed my perspective of how to make an impact in a STEM field. ISEF is one of the most meaningful memories I have. Seeing literal teenagers from all around the world attempt to change the world was so inspiring. I would highly recommend joining a science fair to any high school student. It is such an amazing organization that leaves a last impact on someone's life.

Chloe Hindes

Monte Vista High School

This past year's science fair (2021-2022) was one of the most memorable experiences of my life. Through regionals and state, I was able to qualify to go to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF). Fair in general has been something that I have enjoyed since seventh grade. It has pushed me to learn new things and find my interests. Throughout these past few years, I have explored ideas that have intrigued me and in doing so; I have gained an exceptional amount of knowledge. Going to ISEF was something I didn't think was possible for me, but I did it! The experience was so surreal. Atlanta was different in the most amazing way possible. The exhibit hall, the kids, the symposia, and the activities were phenomenal and I learned a lot. I had the opportunity to meet many outstanding kids, to listen to some of the greatest influences in the scientific community, and to immerse myself in the amazing science fair culture. In addition, Monte Vista had the opportunity to be part of a film series coming to Disney Plus involving science fair. The Monte Vista participants were followed by a film crew throughout the week at ISEF and it made the experience all that more memorable. I had the opportunity to represent the San Luis Valley and I'm so grateful to the people who made the trip possible as well as the people who supported me along the way!! Our San Luis Valley Regional Science Fair serves as a gateway to scientific experiences and STEM related careers, and I truly feel that without access to this competition that I would never have had the opportunities that now lay before me.

Marissa Martinez

Monte Vista High School

2022 Contributors

ALAMOSA

Ace Hardware
Alamosa Dental Lab
Alamosa Elks Lodge
Alamosa Kiwanis
Alamosa Rotary
Alamosa State Bank
Alpine Veterinary Hospital
Arby's
Asphalt Construction Co
Blanca Peak Dental Center
Bill Clark Truck Lines
Bill & Denyse Herrmann
Biophysical Society
Bob and Lois Kirkham
Bruce Meyer
City Market
CFWC Women's Citizenship Club
Chapter DP P.E.O.
Colorado Chapter of Soil & Conservation
Colorado Realty & Land
Colorado Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration
Davis Engineering
Dr. Daniel Avant
Dr. Frank & Mrs. Moore Memorial
Dr. Kay Watkins
Dr. Larry & Carol Sveum
DMRC
Dr. Marty & Diana Jones
Dr. Marilyn Loser
Dr. Ron Loser
Dr. Sastry Jayanty
Dr. Steve Schiffer
Duane & Lorelei Bussey
Eunice Teyler
Husmann Plumbing
IHOP
Integrated Land Services
Jeni Jack Goodwin
Jim Lester & Helen Sigmond
Jim's Tire Store
Kristi Mountain Sports
KW Farms
Lucy Adams
Martinez & Assoc.
Motz Law Firm

Outcalt Foundation
Pat & Ann Stanford
Pester Marketing Co
Reed Tires
Russell Surveyors & Assoc.
Sherwin Williams
Sky High Hospitality Valley Motel
SLV Brewing Co.
SLV Builders
SLV Building Components
SLV Ecosystem Council
SLV STEAM Shop
SLV Federal Bank
SLV Health
SLV Principals Assoc.
SLV Trout Unlimited
SLV Water Conservancy District
Susan & Jeff Storm
Valley Electric
Vendola Plumbing/Heating
Walmart
BLANCA / FT. GARLAND
Fort Market
James & Wendy Fischer
Three S Ranch
Trinchera/Blanca Foundation
Trinchera Ranch
Mike & Eleanor Velasquez
CENTER
Aspen Produce LLC
Biel Crop Consulting
Center CD
Center Kiwanis
Central Pump
Farm Service
Gunbarrel Station
SLV Research Center
Southern Colorado Farms
Willy & Karen Hoffner
CREEDE
Broken Arrow Property
Broken Arrow Ranch & Land Co
Holy Moses
DEL NORTE
Del Norte Bank
Del Norte Napa Auto Parts
Linda Owsley

Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust
LA/JARA/MANASSA/ANTONITO
Catus Hill Ag Consulting
Conejos Co. CD
Conejos Co/La Jara Rotary
Manassa Market
Imerys Perlite USA, Inc.
MONTE VISTA
Alpine Veterinary Hospital
Brian Roberts, DDS
C & L Container
CFWC Woman's Citizenship Club
Clifford Percy
Colorado Potato Admin. Committee
Dirk Oden
Dr. David and Vonda Holm
Farm Credit of Southern Colorado
Farm Fresh Direct
Farming Tech Corp
Friends of the National Refuges
Gary & Jerene Wilkinson
ITC
John & Lisa Rawinski
Mathias Concrete Inc.
Matt & Jenny Nehring
Mile High Prep Report
Monte Vista Elks Club
Monte Vista Eye Center
Monte Glass Shop
Monte Vista Coop
Monte Vista Rotary Club
Notes and Numbers
Jason & Kathy Lorenz
Poole Chemical Inc
Rick Hasler
Rierson Farms
RG Bank
Rio Grande Watershed Conservation
Rio Grande CD
Rob & Grace Davidson
Robert Shanahan
Ski Hi Stampede
SLV Rural Electric Coop

SLV Quality Concrete Inc
State Farm Ins. Co.
Sunflower Bank
The Legacy of Monte Vista
Tyler & Erin Keck
Walter S. Fullwood, CPA
Wenta Nip & Sanitizing
Wilbur Ellis
Williams Family
Chiropractic, PC
MOSCA / HOOPER
Andrew Valdez
Friends of the Dunes
Great Sand Dunes Lodge
Great Sand Dunes Swimming Pool
Mosca Pit Stop
Orient Land Trust
John & Bonnie White
SAGUACHE
Abeyta & Abeyta Trucking LLC
Mnt. Valley Lumber Co.
Olive Branch Lodge
Saguache Crescent
Sutherland Ranches
SAN LUIS
Costilla Co CD
R & R Supermarket
SANFORD
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SARGENT
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