

March 14, 2017 News Release:

### **Fifty-Six Students from Upper Miami Valley Heading for State Science Day**

One-hundred-sixty-five students from Miami, Darke, Shelby and Champaign Counties competed in the Ohio Academy of Science Upper Miami Valley District Science Day, held at Edison State Community College, Piqua, Ohio on Saturday, March 11, 2017. Students exhibited projects in science, technology, engineering and mathematics which they worked on from September through February of this year.

The Science Day (Fair) program has been in Ohio since the 1940's. Students who complete and present a science or engineering project at a local science fair in their school, or at a county event, may qualify to compete at the District level. Ohio now has seventeen districts, the newest of which is the Upper Miami Valley District comprising the four aforementioned counties.

This was the second year for the event where student participation increased by 40%. Organizers included area educators, STEM professionals and business representatives. Almost \$3400 was distributed in awards, provided by area sponsors including many businesses and individuals interested in supporting STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). The students were accompanied by several hundred parents, teachers and guests on Saturday, in a tremendous show of support of the students' efforts.

All Upper Miami Valley students who received a superior rating at their respective local or county Science Day in February were eligible to compete at the District Science Day. Students participating at District and receiving Superior ratings were: **from Anna HS** - Nathan Osborne, Lucas Huber, Kyle Christman, Jane Homans, Ally Cisco, Bradley Axe, Briana Fanaff, Courtney Hollenbacher; **from Ansonia MS** - Marissa Shook; **from Arcanum HS** - Kayla Riegle, Paige Kreuzsch, Karr Stump, Vance Wetzell, Sarah Riley; **from Bethel Elementary** - Allison Cartwright, Julie Sebastian; **from Bethel MS** - Lucas Arnold, Liezl Gustafson, Lisa Sebastian, Alaina Yarwick; **from Bradford HS** - Alexis Barhorst; **from DeColores Montessori Greenville** - Graham Milligan, Ryan Ballou, Kale Conway, Ash Williams, Katie Bruns; **from Graham MS** - Aislen Setty, Matthew Craft; **from Graham Elementary** - Grace Tyler, Mia Traylor, Samantha Worsham, Addison McAuley; **from Greenville HS** - Molly Hunt, Jordan Dill, Natalie Milligan; **from Holy Angels, Sidney** - Emma Westerheide, Angelieh Behr; **from L.T. Ball Intermediate, Tipp City** - Ella Turner, Morgan Suerdieck, Abbey Heitkamp, Chloe Czaper, Will Riehle, Luke Doseck, Ian Greth, Hayden Hiser, Sam Van Oss:

**From Lehman Catholic HS, Sidney** - Abigail Jones, Megan Neumeier, Angela Brunner, Maegan Titterington, Ann Deafenbaugh, Hailey Wick, Hope Anthony, William Hoersten, Melanie Brunner, Lyndsey Jones, Alanna O'Leary, Brendan O'Leary, Isaiah Winhoven, Mikey Rossman, John-Henry Frantz; **from Miami East HS** – Abby Bick; **from Milton-Union HS** - Abigail Hissong, Michael Trimbach; **from Milton-Union MS** - Micah Tracy; **from Newton Elementary, Pleasant Hill** - Dalton Trucksis, Matthew Koon; **Piqua Catholic Elementary** - Hayden Sever, Lily Heffelfinger; **from Piqua HS** - Alivia Knorr-Sullivan, Darby Bulp; **from Tippecanoe HS** - Leena Vyas, Victoria Jacobs; **from Tippecanoe MS** - Brandon Hood, Gavin Ford, Madison Moran; **from L.T. Ball Intermediate, Tipp City** - Ella Turner, Morgan Suerdieck, Abbey Heitkamp, Chloe Czaper, Will Riehle, Luke Doseck, Ian Greth, Hayden Hiser, Sam Van Oss; **Tri-Village HS, New Madison** - Jacob Siegrist; **from Troy HS** - Blake Whitford, Mackenzie Morgan, Taylor Dankworth; **from Urbana HS** - Gavin Spence; **from Versailles HS** - James McClure, Ben Davis, Morgan Heitkamp, Alec Barga.

**Students presented with special awards were:** American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Awards in Mechanical Engineering - Nathan Osborne and Leena Vyas; Boonshoft Museum of Discover Family Membership - Matthew Koon; Ohio Soybean Council Biosciences Awards - Abby Bick and Graham Milligan; College of Wooster – Buckeye Women In Science, Research & Engineering (B-WISER) Camp: Ashley Cook, Alexis Barhorst, Chloe Good, Saige Fellers Hannah Gartenman, Liezl Gustafson, Madison Stasiak, Taylor Reineke, Annie Sinning, Kendall Beam; Southwest Ohio Water Environmental Association – Abigail Jones, Victoria Jacobs, Jessica Gillum/Kylie Blair; Edison State Community College Scholarships - Abigail Jones, Victoria Jacobs, Leena Vyas; Fresh Eyes Editing Award for Outstanding Biomedical Research - Megan Neumeier.

**Sponsored category awards included:** in Behavioral & Social Science – to Jacob Siegrist, Aislen Setty; in Biochemistry, Cargill – to Abby Bick; in Botany, Cargill - Hope Anthony; in Chemistry – to Maegan Titterington, Hayden Sever; in Computer Science – to Karr Stump, Vance Wetzel; in Earth Science, M. E. English – to Molly Hunt; in Engineering, Tippecanoe Masonic Lodge No.174 – to Leena Vyas; in Environmental Sciences, J. McGarry - to Victoria Jacobs; in Medicine & Health Sciences – Premier Health - to Megan Neumeier, Gavin Spence; in Microbiology - James McClure; in Physics – to Dalton Trucksis; in Zoology, Tipp City Veterinary Hospital - to Angela Brunner; Award for Best Presentation of Data – Leena Vyas; and Award for Best Abstract, Fresh Eyes Editing, Sheila Cherry, PhD – to Brianna Fanaff.

Students selected to compete at the Buckeye Science & Engineering Fair on Saturday, April 1st at The Ohio State University were Leena Vyas, Tipp City and Abigail Hissong, West Milton.

All of the projects receiving superior ratings at the Upper Miami Valley District Science Day will proceed to the State Science Day held at The Ohio State University in Columbus on Saturday, May 13, 2017, where over \$1 million in scholarships and special awards will be presented.

The Upper Miami Valley District Council would like to thank the 80 plus judges and event volunteers for their time and efforts which made this event possible. We would also thank the event sponsors, including: **Major Sponsors (\$1,000+)** - Tipp City Rotary Club, Darke County Educational Services Center, Cargill, Inc., The College of Wooster, Edison State Community College; **Major Sponsors (\$500 - \$999)** - Troy Rotary Club, Wayne Health Care, Miami County Foundation, Greenville Masonic Lodge 143, UTC Aerospace, Dungan & LeFevre Co. LPA; **Partner (\$250 - \$499)** Premier Health, Dayton Society of Natural History, The McMurry Family, Ohio Soybean Council, Tippecanoe Masonic Lodge 174, Tipp City Area Community Foundations; **Patron (\$100 - \$249)** - Tipp City Veterinary Hospital, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Dayton Section; **Friends of Science (up to \$99)** - James McGarry, Fresh Eyes Editing - Sheila Cherry, Mackenzie E. English. Special thanks goes to Edison State Community College, its administration, faculty & staff for making this event a wonderful experience for these students.

For more information about Upper Miami Valley Science Days, please contact Dr. Martin English, 1470 W. Main Street, Tipp City, OH 45371, phone: 937-667-3217, or email: [info@ohioumvsd.com](mailto:info@ohioumvsd.com) /website: [www.ohioumvsd.com](http://www.ohioumvsd.com), or contact Angela McMurry, Darke County Educational Services Center, 5279 Education Drive, Greenville, OH 45331, phone: 937-548-4915 ext. 221.