

June 15, 2020 State Science Day News Release

Upper Miami Valley Students Compete in First Virtual State Science Day

Sixty-one students from thirteen local school districts recently competed successfully in the first Online “Virtually Judged” Ohio Academy of Science State Science Day held in late May of this year. After seventy-one years of live State Science Day competitions, this year required an online platform due to the COVID-19 restrictions on large events. Approximately 800 students from across the state participated in the competition where a total of one-half million dollars was distributed as scholarships and awards. Students presented independent research projects in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. All of the local students did exceptionally well with twenty-three receiving superior scores.

Receiving Superior ratings were: **from Anna HS** – Caleb Gaier, Taylor Kauffmann, Dylan Seigle; **from Arcanum Butler HS** – Kayla O'Daniel, Jacob Rice; **from Bethel MS** – Allison Cartwright, Julie Sebastian; **from Greenville HS** – Landon Muhlenkamp; **from Holy Angels, Sidney** – Valerie Rindler, Samantha Sargeant; **from Lehman Catholic HS, Sidney** – John Brunner II, Lyndsey Jones; **from Miami East HS** – Katie Weddle; **from Milton-Union HS** – Micah Tracy; **from St. Patrick, Troy** – Isabel Flores; **from Tippecanoe HS** – Amelia Campbell; **from Tippecanoe MS** – Sadhil Mehta, Carson Jackson, Elias Stienecker; **from L.T. Ball Intermediate, Tipp City** – Kara Hale, **from Tri-Village Elementary** – Cora Gutierrez; **from Versailles HS** – Lauren Menke, Ethan Varner.

Seventeen students earned special project awards totaling \$3,500 and a renewable scholarships of \$2,000 (up to four years). Additional awards and scholarships earned included: **from Anna HS** – Taylor Kauffman, Governor’s Thomas Edison Award for Excellence in Biomedical Technologies, \$250; Dylan Seigle, Dick Goddard Honorary Young Atmospheric Scientist Award, \$1,000, Governor’s Thomas Edison Award for Advanced or Alternative Energy \$250; **from Bethel HS** – Lisa Sebastian, Believe in Ohio STEM Entrepreneurship Award \$200; **from Bethel MS** – Julie Sebastian, Dr. Lynn E. Elfner Young Scientist Award \$100; Jackie & Jasmine Harris, Ohio Psychological Association Behavioral Science Award \$100; **from Greenville HS** - Landon Muhlenkamp, EWI Award, 3rd place \$25, American Society of Civil Engineers Excellence Award for Civil Engineering \$150, Stone Lab Scholarship, Governor’s Thomas Edison Award for Advanced Materials \$250; **from Holy Angels MS** - Valerie Rindler, Dr. Lynn E. Elfner Young Scientist Award \$100; **from Milton-Union HS** – Micah Tracy, Case Engineering and Applied Science Award – Honorable Mention; **from Tippecanoe HS** – Amelia Campbell, Governor’s Award for Excellence in Environmental Protection Research \$100; Anagrace Bennet, Believe in Ohio STEM Entrepreneurship Award \$200; **from Tippecanoe MS** – Carson Jackson & Elias Stienecker, Dr. Lynn E. Elfner Young Scientist Award \$100; Sadhil Mehta, Dr. Lynn E. Elfner Young Scientist Award \$100; **from Troy HS** – Sophie Fong, Ohio Northern University Scholarship \$2,000 renewable; **from Versailles HS** – Lauren Menke, Ohio University Bobcat Tuition Scholarship in Biological Sciences \$500.

State Science Day multi-year participants were also recognized, including Lisa Sebastian, Bethel HS – 6 year trophy; Julie Sebastian, Bethel MS – 4 year trophy; Ash Williams, Greenville HS – 4 year trophy.

Upper Miami Valley Science Days provides the opportunity for students, grades 5-12, in Champaign, Darke, Miami and Shelby Counties, to complete and present original scientific research. This program is organized and supported by many area schools, teachers, parents, Edison Community College, Urbana University, and a number of businesses, professionals, community organizations, and other interested individuals. For additional information, go to the UMVSD website at: www.ohioumvsd.com