

May 12, 2020 News Release:

### **Sixty-Four Students from Upper Miami Valley to Compete in State Science Day**

Ninety-one students from Miami, Darke, Shelby and Champaign Counties competed in the Ohio Academy of Science Upper Miami Valley District Science Day program. This competition is normally held the second Saturday in March at Edison State Community College. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the closing of all schools and restrictions on group events, all District Science Days in Ohio were converted to an on-line platform where projects in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) were virtually-judged by the same volunteers who would have evaluated projects at the live event. Students presented their projects on-line by answering questions, providing photos of their poster and creating a video. Judging concluded on May 8<sup>th</sup>. This was the 5<sup>th</sup> year for the Upper Miami Valley District Science Day. Organizers included area educators, STEM professionals and business representatives. Almost \$7,000 was distributed in awards, provided by area sponsors including many businesses and individuals interested in supporting STEM education.

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 in the Virtual District Science Day and receiving Superior ratings were: from Anna HS – Caleb Gaier, Taylor Kauffmann, Dylan Seigle; from Arcanum HS – Kayla O'Daniel, Jacob Egnor, Jacob Rice, Trista, Hollinger, Aidan O'Brien, Gracie Garno, Madelyn Wogomon; from Bethel HS – Lisa Sebastian; from Bethel MS– Julie Sebastian, John Sebastian, Ella Gross, Tiffany Moore, Jewell Tyler, Allison Cartwright, Jackie Harris, Jasmine Harris; from Greenville HS – Landon Muhlenkamp, Ash Williams, Leo Williams, Anthony-Masso-Rivetti; from Holy Angels, Sidney – Samantha Sargeant, Valerie Rindler, Madison O'Leary, Ian Stiver, Jackson Barhorst, Ryan Fitchpatrick, Ethan Stiver;

From Lehman HS - John Brunner II, Lyndsey Jones, Samuel LaForme, Brandon Jones; Michael Rossman, Maximilian Schmiesing, Brandyn Sever, Jude Schmiesing; from Miami East HS – Katie Weddle; from Miami East JHS – John Weddle; from Milton-Union HS – Micah Tracy, Diana Johnson; from Milton-Union MS – Liam Hartley, Ben Iddings; from St. Patrick, Troy - Isabel Flores, Ruth Perry; from Tippecanoe HS – Anagrace Bennett, Miyu Sakumoto; Amelia Campbell; Cayleigh Turner; from Tippecanoe Middle School – Junya Sakumoto, Audrey Kinninger, Sadhil Mehta; Tessa Riehle, Carson Jackson, Elias Stienecker, Zicheng Guo; from L.T. Ball Intermediate – Parker Stuchell, Topher Billups, Kara Hale; from Tri-Village Elementary – Cora Gutierrez; from Troy HS – Sophie Fong; from Versailles HS – Lauren Menke, Ethan Varner.

Scholarships awarded were: the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority College Advantage 529 Savings Plan Scholarship, each \$250 to Ruth Perry and Parker Stuchell; from Edison State Community College Scholarships x 5, Jacob Egnor, Brandon Jones, Micah Tracy, Landon Muhlenkamp and Ethan Varner.

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SPECIAL AWARDS included: Boonshoft Museum of Discover - One Year Family Membership, value \$135, Parker Stutchell, L.T. Ball Intermediate, Tipp City; American Society of Mechanical Engineers Awards in Mechanical Engineering 1st Place \$75, Brandyn Sever, Lehman HS, 2nd Place \$50, Dylan Seigle, Anna HS, 3rd Place \$25, Michael Rossman – Lehman HS; Tippecanoe Masonic Lodge No.174 Award for Engineering x 2, each \$100, Sadhil Mehta, Tippecanoe MS, Lisa Sebastian – Bethel HS; Fresh Eyes Editing Award for Outstanding Biomedical Research \$50, Samantha Sargeant, Holy Angels; Premier Health-UVMC Award for Medicine & Health Sciences x 2, each \$100, Ian Stiver, Holy Angels, Madelyn Wogomon, Arcanum HS; Cargill Awards in Plant Science x 2, each \$100, Anagrace Bennett, Tipp City HS, Lyndsey Jones, Lehman HS; Ohio Soybean Council Biosciences x 4, each \$100, John Brunner, Lehman HS, Lauren Menke, Versailles HS, Lyndsey Jones, Lehman HS, John Weddle, Miami East JHS; Troy Fish & Game Club Award in Animal Science \$100, Katie Weddle, Miami East HS; Troy Fish & Game Club Award in Environmental Sciences \$150, Ethan Varner, Versailles HS; Mackenzie E. English Award for Earth Science \$50, Coleman McNulty, St. Mary's, Greenville.

EMERSON Topic Category AWARDS with Trophy & \$100 each included: for Animal Science, Ruth Perry; for Behavioral & Social Sciences, Sophie Fong; for Biochemistry, Cellular & Molecular Biology, Samantha Sargeant; for Chemistry, Kayla O'Daniel; for Earth & Environmental Sciences, Ethan Varner; for Energy, John Brunner II; for Engineering Mechanical, Parker Stutchell; for Material Science, Landen Muhlenkamp; for Mathematics, Anthony Masso-Rivetti; for Medicine & Health Sciences, Jacob Egnor; for Microbiology, Brandon Jones; for Physics & Astronomy, Taylor Kauffman; for Plant Science, Lauren Menke; for Robotics & Intelligent Machines, Madison O'Leary.

BASF Awards in Chemistry, 1<sup>st</sup> \$200, Kayla O'Daniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$150, Amelia Campbell, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100, Julie Sebastian. BASF Awards in Medicine & Health, 1<sup>st</sup> \$200 – Gracie Garno, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$150, Jacob Egnor, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100, Leo Williams. BASF Award for Best Presentation of Data \$100, Lauren Menke. Award for Best Abstract from Fresh Eyes Editing, Sheila Cherry, PhD, \$100 to Gracie Garno.

UMV District Science Day Outstanding School Awards – Trophy & \$100, for grades 5-8, Tippecanoe Middle School and for grades 9-12, Tippecanoe High School. Each school had 100% Superior projects with average scores of 38 out of 40. Bethel MS also had 100% Superiors, and came in second with an average score of 37 out of 40.

All of the projects receiving superior ratings in the Upper Miami Valley Virtual District Science Day will proceed to the State Science Day competition where over \$500,000 in scholarships and special awards will be presented. The State Science Day will also be provided as a virtually-judged competition with results announced in early June.

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The Upper Miami Valley District Council would like to thank the 60 judges for their time and efforts which made this program possible. We also give a huge thanks to the event and awards sponsors, including: **Title Sponsors (\$5,000)** EMERSON, Sidney, OH and BASF, Greenville, OH; and **Major Sponsors (\$1,000+)** - Tipp City Rotary Club, Cargill, Inc., Edison State Community College; **Major Sponsors (\$500 - \$999)** – Ohio Tuition Trust Authority, Troy Rotary Club, Premier Health – UVMC, Dayton Society of Natural History; Troy Fish & Game Club, Fresh Eyes Editing - Sheila Cherry, PhD; **Partner (\$250 - \$499)** Tippecanoe Masonic Lodge 174, Ohio Soybean Council **Patron (\$100 - \$249)** - American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Dayton Section; **Friends of Science (up to \$99)** – Mackenzie E. English.

For more information about Upper Miami Valley Science Days, please contact Dr. Martin English, 790 E. Shoop Rd., Tipp City, OH 45371, phone: 937-667-3843, or email: [info@ohioumvsd.com](mailto:info@ohioumvsd.com) /website: [www.ohioumvsd.com](http://www.ohioumvsd.com),

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