



REGISTRATION IS DUE THIS MONTH!

Visit us online or request a paper copy today!

It feels like you just started school, but October is already over! The experimentation review deadline for your project for the Sacramento Regional STEM Fair is THIS month!

November 28 is the deadline to submit your registration so that the Scientific Review Committee (SRC) can review your experimental procedure to ensure safety. This is required of all project submissions. **Don't worry - this doesn't mean you have to perform your experiment yet - we simply need to know WHAT you plan to do!**

After the SRC approves your project, you will receive an email notifying you that you can go ahead and get started on actually carrying out your experiments! This way, you can rest assured that you are not wasting time on performing aspects of a project that can be dangerous to you or those around you!

Remember: Project boards do NOT need to be completed until the actual Fair day, March 25, 2017.

Please feel free to contact us at sacSTEMfair@sacSTEMfair.org or at (916) 441-3150 with any questions or concerns about the registration deadlines or about the process.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for the **COMPETITIVE DIVISION**.

OR

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for the **SHOWCASE DIVISION**.

EXHIBITORS! REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Register today as an exhibitor for the 2017 College & Career Expo to be held at American River College on March 25, 2017.

Exhibiting is a great way to market your organization, college, or company. Exhibits will be open to the public. The attendees will include the participating Regional STEM Fair students, teachers and parents as well as the public - that's over 1,500 people! Bring your hands-on activities and showcase your support for STEM education. The exhibit space includes an open-air space approximately 10'x10' in size so you will have plenty of room to involve students and parents in your demonstrations! You can reserve as many exhibit spaces as you need! All exhibitors will receive a listing in the program, a feature in our newsletter, and recognition on our website. Fee waivers and/or reduced fees are available for some non-profits and some state organizations.

Additional sponsorship opportunities are available to meet your company's marketing needs.

A tentative schedule of events is posted online [#exhibittimeline](#). Contact us today with any questions! Register now: [#exhibittoday](#)

Bayer CropScience's interactive exhibit at the 2015 College & Career Expo!



Be sure to register early to secure your spaces! [#exhibittoday!](#)



TEACHERS!

Classroom Presentations!

Teachers! Want a STEM presentation at YOUR school? Presentations are a great way to drum up student excitement about conducting their own research, and can allow us to directly handle your students' registration questions! If you would like an in-class presentation, contact us today!

[Request a Presentation!](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 16 - Intel STS Registration Deadline

November 21 - Registration DEADLINE for students to enter their experimentation information!

October - December - Contact the NorCal STEM Education Foundation for in-class presentations and help with registration!

A BIG THANK-YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Those of us here at the NorCal STEM Education Foundation would like to send out a BIG THANK-YOU to our sponsors at the Aerojet Rocketdyne Foundation for their continued support of our Non-Profit Organization. It's thanks to sponsors like you that we can continue to do what we do!



DONATE TO THE FOUNDATION WHILE SHOPPING FOR GROCERIES!

Do you shop at Raley's, Bel-Air, or Nob Hill? If so, please join the Extra Credit program for the Sacramento Regional Science and Engineering Fair Foundation. [See instructions on how to sign up here](#). It's all online and just takes a few simple clicks to support the Foundation!

ARE YOU A STATE WORKER LOOKING TO DONATE THROUGH "OUR PROMISE" (formerly CSECC)?

The donation website for "Our Promise" has been taken offline, but state employees can still make their donations the old-fashioned way! The Sacramento Regional Science & Engineering Fair Foundation (dba NorCal STEM Education Foundation) hopes you will elect to donate to our organization. We've even prepared the form for you with our information to make it simple. Use the Our Promise form with our information [here](#).

SPONSOR THE FOUNDATION TODAY!

Does your organization support STEM Education? Would you like to be more involved? Then consider becoming a sponsor of the NorCal STEM Education Foundation, today! All sponsorships get featured on our website and in the STEM Fair program, and all the money goes toward increasing student interest in STEM! It's a win-win! If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring the Foundation, either monetarily or with in-kind goods or services, please visit our Sponsorship page on the website to learn more!

PIN DESIGN CONTEST OPEN

Do you consider yourself somewhat of an artist? If so, we want YOU to help us design our 2018 STEM Fair pin! Each year, the NorCal STEM Education Foundation provides pins to participants at the Sacramento Regional STEM Fair to commemorate the event. These pins travel with the winners who go on to compete in the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair and are traded among competitors from all over the world! Imagine YOUR design traveling to Europe, Asia, even Australia!

The contestants for the Pin Design Competition will be featured on-site at the 2018 Sacramento Regional STEM Fair and the winner will be named at the Awards Ceremony.

Rules to Enter:

All designs should be scalable (submitted in EPS format) and visually appealing when reduced to 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 inches. Designs will be displayed in color in two sizes for voting. Designs will be shown in a print area of 4x6 inches alongside a pin preview thumbnail of 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 inches. Pin designs should state "2018" and "Sacramento Regional STEM Fair." The chosen pin is subject to change to reflect the name of the 2018 Fair.

Individual submissions only. Contest is limited to students in grades 5-12 who reside in the NorCal STEM Education Foundation's service area.

To learn more, [visit our website](#).



Past Pin Designs

HELP JUDGE THE REGIONAL STEM FAIR!

WHY VOLUNTEER TO JUDGE?

You have a chance to act as an ambassador for your scientific, tech, engineering or mathematical profession. At the Fair, you may be the first professional in the STEM field these students have ever had the chance to meet in person. Judges make a memorable impact on the lives of some of our regions' most talented young people who have their sights set for the STEM workforce. These students are the future of our workforce and you have the chance to help them along their journey by judging at the STEM Fair!

WHAT DOES A JUDGE DO? Judges are responsible for evaluating projects in their assigned category, which will be decided during Judges Orientation prior to the Fair. They must provide clear and impartial feedback to each student they interview.

Judge duties include:

1. Review each entry in your assigned category and take notes during the Project Board review as well as the Interview.
2. Complete and return scoring sheets to your Team Lead by the specified time.

WHAT ARE THE CATEGORIES TO BE JUDGED?

Projects are judged in the following categories:

- Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Engineering
- Math and Computer Sciences
- Physical Sciences
- Energy and Transportation

See the full list of categories for projects here: [#categories](#).

HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT TAKE? The Judges' Orientation Dinner is scheduled for Friday, March 24, 2017 beginning at 6PM at American River College where judges will be trained on the judging process and encouraged to review student project boards without students present. We estimate that judges may devote a maximum of 5-8 total hours for judging Friday through Saturday.

READY TO SIGN UP? Sign up online: [#judgeregistration](#). If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us at sacSTEMfair@sacSTEMfair.org.



The Regional STEM Mentoring Program

Great minds follow great mentors! The Regional STEM Mentoring (RSM) program provides a foundation for students to build hands-on skills, receive advice, and grow into independent individuals ready to jump-start their careers. The RSM program dedicates itself to opening the minds of students to pursue greater STEM careers with a passion for what they want to do. Students who go through the program emerge better equipped for the STEM workforce and their future careers! Please visit our website for more information and to sign up for this amazing experience:

[Learn about the Mentoring Program!](#)

SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT

Plant Thermometers

Scientists at the University of Cambridge have discovered another use for a molecule in plants that detects light. These so-called phytochromes can also act as a plant's "thermometer." By day, the phytochromes detect light and determine if a plant needs to grow faster (to get out of shade) or slower (to conserve energy), but by night, these molecules change state, and the faster they change, the quicker plants grow. This is partially how some plants sense when to start growing. These molecules could be used to help plants continue to grow in a world that has increased in temperature due to global warming. Learn more about the molecule and the study here: [#phytochromes](#).

Hospitable Alien World?

An international team of astrophysicists has determined that an exoplanet may be hospitable to life. The earth-massed terrestrial exo-planet, Proxima Centauri b orbits the red dwarf star Proxima Centauri, the closest star to our own solar system (4.23 light-years away). Proxima b's orbit would allow it to have liquid water on its surface. It's period (year) is 11.2 earth days, and it orbits its star at 0.5 AU. More research is needed about this exoplanet, but it's certainly an exciting notion that a hospitable world might be so nearby! Read more about the research here: [#Proximab](#).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Good 360 Sustainability Scholarship - \$1,000

The Good 360 Sustainability Scholarship will go to the student who most reflects the mission of Good 360, living sustainably. Sustainable living means doing everything possible to limit waste production, protect valuable natural resources and improve the lives of those in need. In order to qualify for the scholarship, post a photo on Instagram with your 200-300-word essay explaining what sustainability means to you and complete the form found here: [#good360](#).

National Space Club Scholarship - \$10,000

Provided to a high school senior, undergraduate or graduate student with definite plans to pursue a career in the Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) fields. Since 2013, The National Space Club and Foundation has offered the opportunity for a student to give the keynote address at the National Space Club and Foundation's annual Goddard Memorial Dinner, one of the space industry's most prestigious gatherings. The student must intend to pursue a career in the Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) fields, be academically strong and excel in public speaking. In addition to speaking at the Goddard Memorial Dinner, the individual selected will also receive a scholarship, in the amount of \$10,000. Find out more here: [#NationalSpaceClub](#).

OTHER COMPETITIONS

Verizon Innovative Learning App Challenge

Middle and High School students in teams of 5-7 work together to design an app that solves a problem in their community. The contest is open to students in grades 6-12, with teams that are affiliated with schools or other non-profits, and who have an adult advisor. **The deadline to register is November 18.**

NSTA Bright Schools Competition

Students in grades 6-8 are asked to explore through scientific inquiry or engineering design concepts the correlation between light and sleep. Competition registration is now open and the deadline to register is February 6, 2017.