



## Registration is NOW OPEN! Visit us online today!

Get your registration done before your homework starts piling up! It might seem far away, but the 2017 Sacramento Regional STEM Fair Registration Deadline is just before your Thanksgiving Break this year!

**Midnight (PST), Monday, November 21, 2016 is the registration deadline for ALL PROJECTS.** Our Scientific Review Committee (SRC) needs time to review ALL registrations and approve them for safety and protocol content **before you can perform your experimentation.** In case your project needs some tweaking to get approval, **get your registration completed early!** For a full summary of the projects that require SRC pre-approval, please visit our website ([www.sacSTEMfair.org](http://www.sacSTEMfair.org)).

There are multiple ways to participate in the STEM Fair: you can compete (complete a STEM Fair Project with the correct pre-approvals, explain your project to professional scientist and engineer judges, spend a day with like-minded students and try your best to earn scholarships and prizes), or you can showcase (complete a STEM Fair Project with the correct pre-approvals, spend a day with like-minded students and gain some valuable experience explaining your project to people who are not judges). The competitive division is only open to students in grades six through twelve, and is further split between middle and high school competitions, while the showcase division is only open to students in grades five through eleven.

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

OR

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

## NorCal Broadcom MASTERS Semi-Finalists!

Join us in giving a heartfelt **CONGRATULATIONS** to the two students from the 2016 Sacramento Regional STEM Fair that have gone on to become Semi-Finalists at the Broadcom MASTERS Competition this year! Congratulations to Yahvin Gali, a sixth grader from Lammersville Elementary School (at last year's STEM Fair), and Albert Qin, an eighth grader from Winston Churchill Middle School (at last year's STEM Fair).

Both young men won first place in their respective categories in the Middle School Competitive Division at the 2016 Synopsys Sacramento Regional STEM Fair. Yahvin took home first in the Energy and Transportation Category for his project titled "Shellfish to the Rescue! Restoring Balance to Local Marine Habitats by Bivalve Shell Recycling," while Albert took home first in Math and

Computer Science Category for his project titled "An Application of Artificial Neural Networks to Decentralized Cooperative Navigation."

This is a huge accomplishment, as only 300 middle school students were selected from the entire country to compete as a semi-finalist. They now move on to try and secure one of thirty finalist spots, to be announced September 20.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### BACK TO SCHOOL!

**September 10** - Electricity Fair at Folsom Power House  
10am-2pm

**September 16** - Outstanding Young Scientist Competition

**September 20** - Broadcom MASTERS Finalist  
Announcement

### SCHOLARSHIPS

#### *Odenza Marketing Group Scholarship - \$500*

Students aged 16-25 as of September 30, 2016 with a GPA of 2.5 or greater may enter this scholarship competition by writing two small essays that contain the following three essential elements: a thesis statement, supporting evidence, and correct formatting and grammar. The two essays are: 1. Choose a city anywhere in the world that you believe would benefit your future career, and 2. Explain why you should be granted the scholarship. For more information visit [their website](#).

#### *Create Real Impact Contest - \$1,500*

Car crashes are the #1 killer of teens in America, and the majority are preventable. Create Real Impact motivates young people to promote innovative and effective SOLUTIONS to the deadly epidemic of reckless and distracted driving. Entries are accepted in four formats (writing, art, music and video) and three languages (English, Spanish, and American Sign Language). There are a total of 10 awards, ranging from \$500 to \$1500. The focus is on reckless and distracted driving. While extremely dangerous and highly illegal, entries focused on drunk or drugged driving will NOT be accepted. This application is due September 30. Visit [their website](#) for more information.

#### *StudySoup Future Innovator Scholarship - \$2,000*

As a company driven to help students succeed, we know that college is an important step along many career paths, but it can get expensive. StudySoup is offering a \$2,000 scholarship each semester to students who exemplify one or more of their core



Yahvin Gali and Albert Qin accept their first place awards at the 2016 Synopsys Sacramento Regional STEM Fair.

## 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

values: Be a Knight, Make an Impact, and Succeed Together. You may have mentored a fellow student, organized a fundraiser for charity, or gone on a humanitarian trip abroad. Whatever your achievements, we want to hear from you! Students 16 years of age or older may apply no later than October 1. Visit [their website](#) for more information.

### 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 SPOTLIGHT

We here at the NorCal STEM Education Foundation would like to extend a HUGE thank-you to our sponsors at the California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS)! Their generous donation will go a long way toward funding Foundation activities. CAPS is the exclusive representative of nearly 3,000 scientists who work for the State of California, protecting our environment and public health. Thank you, CAPS!

### 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.

### SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT



## Classroom Presentations!

Teachers! Want a STEM Fair 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 want us to come to your classroom, contact us today!

[http://sacstemfair.org/teachers---coordinators.html#request\\_presentation](http://sacstemfair.org/teachers---coordinators.html#request_presentation)

## VOLUNTEER!

You don't have to be school-aged to be a part of our Foundation! Our entire event is volunteer-run, so we need your help! Our volunteers run everything from the information booth to the on-site project check-in. If YOU have some spare time (or

Regular volunteer duties aren't the only way to participate. Are you a STEM Professional? If so, we need your expertise! Your experience in the Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics fields is in need! You can become a [MENTOR](#) to

are a parent of a competing student and would like something to do while they are in the judging room), volunteering with the Fair can be a great way to give back, have some fun, make some friends, and get free food! If you'd like to volunteer, [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up!

students as a part of our Regional STEM Mentoring Program, a [STEM SPEAKER](#), discussing your day-to-day duties in the classroom with students, or a STEM Fair [JUDGE](#). We provide all our STEM Professional volunteers with training, so if you have the time, we need YOU!



## 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:

[www.sacstemfair.org/regional-stem-mentoring-program](http://www.sacstemfair.org/regional-stem-mentoring-program)

### ***Cat-Sized Dinosaurs!***

A newly discovered pterosaur was much smaller than the other flying reptiles that have been discovered in the past. The fossils, found in British Columbia, its wingspan was estimated to be only five feet in length, and it's estimated to have been only one foot tall at the shoulder. The pterosaur does not yet have a scientific name. If you'd like to read more about these tiny pterosaurs, click [here](#).

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### **PASSING OF THE TORCH**

Michele Hastie, former Fair Director of the NorCal STEM Education Foundation has stepped down from her position citing medical issues. We wish Michele all the best of luck in her future endeavors. Nadia Compton, who many of you know as the Fair Coordinator, will serve as the new Foundation Director. We place our trust in her very capable, organized hands and look forward to our best year YET!