

# Welcome to the



*hosted by the*

Northern California



Education Foundation

Science • Technology • Engineering • Math

## March 14-16, 2025



**NorCal STEM Education Foundation's  
Sacramento Regional STEM Fair  
March 14-16, 2025  
SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity**

Schedule of Events

**March 14, 2025**

- 6:00-8:00PM .....Student Project Drop Off (Alpha and Omega Classrooms)
- 8:00PM.....SRC Walk Through (*Project Drop Off closes promptly at 8PM*)
- 

**March 15, 2025**

- 8:00-9:00AM .....Student Check-in (Alpha and Omega Classrooms)  
Judge's Check-in (Board Room, 2nd floor)
- 8:30-9:00AM .....Judge's Project Review (Alpha and Omega Classrooms; *No students present, enjoy the Museum!*)
- 9:00AM-3:00PM.....STEM Fair Competition and Judging Begins (Alpha and Omega Classrooms) (*During interviews, all students in the Competition Division must be present and remain at their projects until dismissed for lunch.*)
- 12:00-1:00PM.....Lunch break for all participants
- 3:00-4:00PM .....Project Public Viewing Hours (Alpha and Omega Classrooms)
- 4:00-5:00PM .....Project Removal  
*NOTE: Projects left behind in the gymnasium will not be saved*
- 

**March 16, 2025**

- 5:30PM .....Awards Ceremony (Multiverse Theater)
- 6:30-7:30PM .....Special Awards Pick up (Foyer of Multiverse Theater)

# THANK YOU

*to the*



## For Your Generous Hospitality in 2025

The SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity is Northern California's immersive science center and community gathering space, adding to the vibrant growth in the capital of the Golden State.

MOSAC is a dynamic epicenter for STEAM education and an anchor point for Sacramento's revitalized waterfront; Located in the historic power station overlooking Matsui Waterfront Park along the Sacramento River.

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*Engineering California's Future*  
*Designing Projects for Today . . . and Generations to Come.*

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The Professional Engineers in California Government (PECG) represents 13,000 state-employed engineers and related professionals responsible for designing and inspecting California's infrastructure, improving air and water quality, and developing clean energy and green technology.

NorCal STEM Education Foundation  
Sacramento Regional STEM Fair

# Thank you to our Sponsors & Donors

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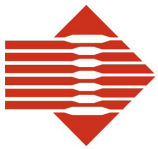
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**Thank You** to the following  
**Sponsors and Donors** for another  
**successful year!**



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**organizations** around the world



**The Jackson  
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*Leading the search  
for tomorrow's cures*



# **2025 Special Awards**

*Thank you to the following organizations for providing special awards and prizes for our student participants:*

Genius Olympiad

Lemelson Early Inventor Prize

Office of Naval Research U.S. Navy / U.S. Marine Corps

Professional Engineers in California Government

SMUD

The Patent and Trademark Office Society

U.S. Air Force

# FIRST FLOOR OF THE MUSEUM



**STUDENT CHECK-IN  
STEM FAIR COMPETITION**

**AWARDS CEREMONY**

**SHOWCASE PROJECTS**



**JUDGE'S CHECK IN  
JUDGE'S DELIBERATION ROOM**

# SECOND FLOOR OF THE MUSEUM

# 2025 Category Awards

*The Sacramento Regional STEM Fair recognizes seven categories of STEM and awards our participants who place in their respective Divisions. The categories are as follows:*

Applied Engineering

Behavioral & Social Sciences

Biology & Health Sciences

Chemistry

Computer Software & Technology

Physical Sciences & Math

Sustainable Technology

## **Middle School Division Awards**

First, second, third, fourth, and fifth place prizes will be awarded in each of seven categories in the Middle School Division.

## **High School Division Awards**

First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded in each of seven categories in the High School Division.

## **Grand Prize Awards**

Three Grand Prize Awards are given to the most competitive Category Award winner projects in the High School Competition Division.

# COMPETITION WINNERS ADVANCE TO



## Thermo Fisher Junior Innovators Challenge

Middle School Division recipients of the Thermo Fisher Junior Innovators Challenge Award are nominated to compete in this national science, technology, engineering and math competition for U.S. 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Nominees will enter the competition by completing an online application where they will explain their science project and demonstrate their use of STEM principles in the development and presentation of their project. From national entrants, 300 Semifinalists will be selected, including 30 Finalists who win an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., where they will compete for awards and prizes, including the top education award of \$25,000 Thermo Fisher Scientific ASCEND Award (Aspiring Scientists Cultivating Exciting New Discoveries).



## California State Science Fair

The first place category winners in Middle and High School Divisions at the Sacramento Regional STEM Fair advance to participate in the California State Science Fair\* to be held **April 12-13 in Thousand Oaks, California**. All second place category winners will be named as alternates. The 74th annual California State Science Fair is the final science fair of the academic year for students throughout the State of California in grades 6-12, serving California's future scientists since 1952. It is hosted by the California Lutheran University (CLU) in Thousand Oaks. This year they are expecting nearly 1,000 participants from over 400 schools throughout the State to meet in competition for awards totaling \$50,000.

*\*Note: Students from Butte, San Joaquin, and Solano counties are not eligible to advance to the California State Science Fair through the Sacramento Regional STEM Fair.*

**NorCal STEM Education Foundation  
Sacramento Regional STEM Fair**

# Special Thanks

## **Judges & Volunteers**

We would like to extend a special thanks to our judges and volunteers for the generous gift of your time and expertise. Your presence helps to inspire and engage the next generation of STEM professionals!

## **Scientific Review Committee**

Valerie Chenoweth, Chair  
Deborah Taylor  
Kelli Gutierrez

## **Judging Coordinators**

Valerie Chenoweth, Special Awards  
Malinda Holland, Scoring  
Alex Compton, Competition Division

## **Project Check-in Coordinator**

Nadia Compton

## **Media Coordinator**

Bianca Petzold

## **Volunteer Coordinator**

Bianca Petzold

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# About the NorCal STEM Education Foundation (NSEF)

## Our Mission and Goals

The NorCal STEM Education Foundation was founded as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation in September 2001, after the California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS) and the Professional Engineers in California Government (PECG) advocated Blanning and Baker Associates, Inc to adopt and revive the event. The Foundation was originally created solely to operate and organize the Sacramento Regional Science and Engineering Fair, previously supported by the Sacramento Bee. The first annual Fair, run by the Foundation, was held in the Spring of 2002 where it was noted that there was minimal participation from the region. Through grassroots efforts, the Foundation conducted research that illustrated a need for STEM educational programs. The lack of STEM educational initiatives in the greater Sacramento region inspired the Foundation to expand from purely organizing the Fair to grow and become a now 12-county STEM Educational Foundation that provides programs and gathers resources for the entire region. Each event is entirely supported by the community through business sponsorships, donations and volunteers.

The mission of the NorCal STEM Education Foundation is to encourage students to pursue their passion for STEM and spark their interest in science, technological, engineering or mathematical degrees and careers.

## 2025 Foundation Board of Directors

David Miller.....	President
Matt Hanson.....	Vice President & Treasurer
Terry Escarda.....	Secretary
Valerie Chenoweth.....	Board Member
Malinda Holland.....	Board Member
John Gutierrez.....	Board Member

## 2024-2025 Foundation Staff

Nadia Compton.....	Director
Bianca Petzold.....	Foundation Executive
Claire Wynne.....	Coordinator
April Beale.....	Bookkeeper