



Minnesota Academy of Science

Promoting Excellence in Science Since 1873

Programs and Youth Back to School Issue

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First Lady Michelle Obama Participates at National Science Bowl

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"Getting to go to Washington, D.C. and participate in the National Science Bowl was a great experience," said Jonathan Meyer, an eighth grader at Minnetonka Middle School West. "We got to see so many interesting things and compete against other top teams from around the country. Team member Tommy Slattery commented, "Listening to the First Lady and having her participate as a moderator was really motivating.

She said some neat things about the importance of scientists and mathematicians and how we will be the ones to help our country in the future."

The winning teams from the Minnesota Academy of Science's Minnesota State Regional Science Bowls received an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. to participate in the National Science Bowl. She motivated the crowd of 550 middle and high school students from around the country in her key note address when she said, "We want young people energized in the way that you all are, because we know that American brainpower in science and math has always driven this country's prosperity, helping us make the discoveries and to build the industries that have transformed the way we live and work. That's why my husband and his administration want to ensure that every single child in this country gets a good education, particularly in math and science."

Mrs. Obama encouraged the students to continue to ask questions, play and experiment. She said, "In the coming decades, our future scientists, engineers, and leaders are going to help tackle some of our most challenging problems. We are going to need you. Whether it's improving our health, har-



nessing clean energy, protecting our security, succeeding in the global economy, we're going to need you. Our future depends on a new generation of young Americans who can help reaffirm our role as the world's engine of scientific discovery and innovation." Continued on page 2

Minnetonka Middle School West participated in the round robin academic event with a total of 37 schools but did not qualify to progress to the double elimination tournament. They also participated in the solar cell car race. The winning team was from Albuquerque Academy in Albuquerque, NM.

Chaska High School participated in the round robin tournament with a total of 68 teams and qualified to participate in the double elimination tournament. They finished as one of the top 12 schools of the tournament and won a trophy and \$1,000 for their school's science department. The winning team was from North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics in Durham, NC.

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The Minnesota Academy of Science's K-12 education programs strive to uphold these same goals and share Mrs. Obama's view on the importance of science education. According to Celia Waldock, Executive Director of the Minnesota Academy of Science, "We have a strong commitment to science education in our schools and from the business community. Our organization is proud to provide exciting competitive events to highlight the achievements of the students in our state."

The MN State Regional Science Bowl is sponsored by generous contributions from Ecolab, General Mills, Great River Energy, Macalester College and the University of St. Thomas.

A complete transcript of Mrs. Obama's remarks and a video of the event can be found at bowl.mnmas.org

Come on board with the Junior Science & Humanities Symposium (JSHS) and MN State Science & Engineering Fair for 2010/2011 school year.

Lise Weegman

New this year: New venue for JSHS and State Science & Engineering Fair: *Sheraton South Bloomington, 494/100*
<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/features/index.html?propertyID=1493>

JSHS- Sat/Sun March 19/20 and State Science & Engineering Fair Sun-Tues March 20-22. The parking lot holds up to 1500 vehicles and it is free! In addition to the parking lot, there is off-street parking (come one, come all so we can surpass the 1500 number) ☺

Students, teachers and parents – if you have yet to find resources and/or choose a topic for this year's scientific research, allow Science Buddies to help you. www.sciencebuddies.com. There are resources for students, teachers and parents and guides to help you through the process.

Scientific Research presented in PAPER Form for JSHS: there are two different paths in which you are able to submit your research paper to compete in JSHS: Submit your paper through OPEN competition which is an online process (Read rules on how to submit through Open competition on the MAS website, JSHS Page <http://www.jshs.mnmas.org/jshsHome.asp> OR submit through your nearest regional science fair: A student is not allowed to enter through both paths.

<u>Region</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Location</u>
Northeast Regional Science Fair	2/5/2011	U of MN, Duluth, Kirby Student , Duluth.
Rochester Regional Science Fair - Projects	2/17/2011 - 2/19/2011	On website - (from "Academics" pull-down menu select "Rochester Regional Science Fair). University Center Rochester in the Regional Sports Center.
Northern Regional Science Fair	2/19/2011	Memorial Hall, Bemidji State U, Bemidji, 56601
South Central/Southwest RS&EF	2/19/2011	Centennial Student Union, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Twin Cities Regional Science Fair	2/25/2011 - 2/26/2011	U of MN - Field House, 1800 University Ave, Minneapolis
Southeast Regional Science Fair	2/25/2011	Winona State University, Kryzko Commons, Winona 55987
Central Region Science Fair	2/26/2011	Atwood Memorial Union at SCSU, St Cloud.
Western Regional Science Fair	2/26/2011	Minnesota State University Moorhead, Comstock Memorial Union