



## *Flint Regional Science Fair*

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#### **Inventing our tomorrow!**

“This is outstanding”, “What a novel solution to this problem”, “What a great question to investigate”! These and many other adjectives were heard at the 61st Annual Flint Regional Science Fair at Kettering University March 17-20. 291 students brought their science and engineering projects to share their ideas and what they learned with judges, other students and visitors to the fair.

FRSF serves students in grades 4-12 from Bay, Genesee, Lapeer, Midland, Saginaw, Shiawassee, St Clair and Tuscola counties and high school students from communities not served by a recognized regional science fair.

69 Finalists were rewarded for their efforts with gift cards, trips and certificates. Five senior division students won all-expense paid trips to attend the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair in Los Angeles in May. Twenty (20) Junior Division Finalists were nominated for the Broadcom MASTERS competition that is held in Washington, DC in the fall.

A total of 132 Special Awards were presented to 90 students, including 42 non-finalists, who were selected by Special Award judges using the criteria of their award sponsor. Special Awards include certificates, prizes, scholarships, and trips. 32 different organizations, professional societies, individuals and agencies sponsored special awards.

Tuition Scholarships were awarded by three local schools, payable if the student attends the sponsoring college: Kettering University awarded a \$3000/ year for four years scholarship to Alex Kleinfeld of Saginaw, U Michigan Flint awarded a \$4000/ year for four years scholarship to Zaid Haque of Saginaw, and Baker College awarded scholarships for one summer course to Aarzo Mahajan of Saginaw and Mallory Snyder of Birch Run.

In addition to student recognition, the FRSF Board selected David Allan, PhD as the 2017 Teacher of The Year. Dr Allan teaches at Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy.

“Judging science fairs has never been more challenging or rewarding”, said John Wambaugh, Fair Director.

“It is very reassuring to talk with students and judge science fair projects—these kids are bright, inquisitive, and creative. They are developing critical thinking skills and real aptitude for science”, said John Wambaugh, who has been Director of the Flint Regional Science Fair for 20 years. “In these challenging times it is reassuring to see what our youth, who will be the leaders of tomorrow, are doing.”

Each Finalist is interviewed by multiple judges or teams of judges to determine final ranking and winners. Students not selected as finalists are each interviewed by one judge. “Non-finalist interviews are in many ways the most important interviews as students get to present their project to a judge, respond to questions, often getting suggestions for further inquiry or how to do better science next time, and encouragement.”

“Everyone is a winner” Wambaugh likes to say, and FRSF recognizes all students who participate. Students not selected as finalists are each interviewed by one judge to get encouragement and to help. All participants receive a goodie bag of prizes and a ribbon.

The Flint Regional Science Fair Board wishes to thank the many wonderful Fair sponsors-- individuals and organizations, for their outstanding commitment to the community, to youth and to the importance of science and technology. With increasing participation by students there is need for additional sponsors and financial support.

The Board also wishes to thank our many contributors for their generous support, and the more than 70 judges who gave their time and talents to meet with students one-on-one to review projects and provide encouragement. "The efforts of many dedicated volunteers makes this Fair one of the best in the nation", said Wambaugh.

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For Additional Information Visit: [www.flintsciencefair.org](http://www.flintsciencefair.org)

**Results** (information on winners, prizes, school, project title, etc.) are in PDFs “2017 FRSF Finalists and Special Award Winners” and “2017 FRSF All Participants by School” that can be accessed from the FRSF web site [www.flintsciencefair.org](http://www.flintsciencefair.org) or can be attached to an email. If information is needed in some other format please contact Tom Cerny.