

Florida Junior Academy of Science

A Division of the Florida Academy of Sciences

Volume 28, No. 2 Winter 2009

Call for Research Papers

All FJAS members are invited to submit their scientific or literary research papers to the preliminary FJAS competition. Because many students competing with experimental papers will also be competing in Regional, State, and Intel International Science & Engineering Fairs, it is imperative that appropriate requirements for these competitions be met including:

- proper completion of forms and approvals PRIOR to experimentation.
- experimentation does not exceed 12 months and was begun after January 1, 2009.

Forms do NOT need to be sent to FJAS.

Literary papers MUST NOT discuss any data collected by the student, only published data may be presented for discussion and analysis.

The instruction sheets for both types of papers are available on the website: Junior Academy pages of www.floridaacademyofsciences.org

See the "Paper instructions" where the information for the literary paper follows the experimental information.

Research Paper Guidelines

See the complete guidelines for writing the paper and judging rubric.

The paper MUST meet these guidelines:

- Title page with lay-language title (max 75 characters) and lay-language abstract (max of 100 words) ONLY.
- NO mention of student name, school, acknowledgments, mentor or facility can appear within the paper.
- Maximum of 20 pages double-spaced

Submitting the Research Paper

All papers should be sent electronically, if at all possible. If unable to submit electronically, papers can be mailed and will then be scanned. All papers are sent electronically to the preliminary judges.

After preparing the paper according to the guidelines please save the paper in **pdf, rtf, or doc** with a filename less than 30 characters using the key words of the paper title. Do NOT name the file with - your name (this discounts anonymity) - generic title such as "FJAS paper"

The attachments are not renamed and are sent directly after sorting to the preliminary

judges.

Some common errors last year which led to reduced points for not following the directions during the preliminary judging were:

- too large of an attachment (max is 2 MB)
- name on the attachment or within the paper
- too long of an abstract, not in lay-language
- acknowledgements

Entries that are too large or in an unacceptable format will be returned to the student to edit and not forwarded for judging until corrected.

See complete guidelines on the website under "Entry Form - Competition". Please check your attachment prior to sending to make sure it meets your expectations.

An e-mail will be returned within 24 hours verifying receipt of the paper.

Papers can still be mailed

to Pat Zalo to be received by Jan. 31st 2010
2812 26th Avenue Dr W
Bradenton FL 34205-3707

Preliminary Competition Procedures

Sessions are determined based on each student's application information in the email and the number of papers submitted. It is the goal of the FJAS Coordinator to place similar papers in the same session. To allow for equal chances for all submissions, papers are sorted by: grade level first (middle school or high school); type of paper (literary or experimental); and then general area of the experimental papers. If there are too many or too few papers in an experimental section then sections may be split and/or combined at the discretion of the FJAS Coordinator. It is the goal for each preliminary judge to review between 20 and 25 papers and to select the best 10 to 12 which will be invited to compete at the FJAS competition.

Special Awards for Seniors

Once high school seniors are selected to present at the state competition, an application will be available to submit information for the scholarship and AAAS awards presented at the FJAS competition in addition to the awards. These applications will be sent with the confirmation of presenting students and the competition registration forms.

**2010 FJAS Competition will be held at the
Indian River State College in Fort Pierce, Florida**

on March 20, 2010

Hotel information is posted in the *Call for Abstracts* on the FAS website.
www.floridaacademyofsciences.org

The tentative schedule will be:

9:45 AM Welcome

10 AM to 12:30 Judging in concurrent sessions

2 PM Awards Ceremony following the Business Meeting

Guidelines for Presentations

Middle school students have 10 minutes while high school students have 12 minutes to present their material. The judges then have 3 minutes to ask the presenter questions. Students are encouraged to practice their presentations to insure coverage of the entire presentation in the time allotted.

Information regarding the equipment available at the competition will be sent with the letter confirming students selected to present.

Please READ THIS - CASH AWARDS POSSIBLE!!

LifeStar Foundation will provide up to five \$500 cash awards to FJAS students as a result of their papers and presentations at the Annual Meeting. This organization is engaged in developing programs to combat aging and extend life, i.e. regenerative medicine. Any student's project, however remotely connected to that end, is eligible. At the present time we are going to be working with our FAS Awards committee to develop some award criteria for these awards. Last year Aaron Enten of American Heritage won the award.