

The Greater San Diego Science and
Engineering Fair
2002

Facts

- Began in 1955
- Serve San Diego and Imperial Counties
- 7th – 12th graders
- 2001 Fair: 992 exhibitors
- Held in Balboa Park
- 48th Annual Fair: March 19 – 24, 2002
- www.gsdsef.org

Who Are We?

- Non-profit 501(3)(c) corporation
- The Management Committee
 - All volunteer group
 - Organize, plan, run the Fair
 - Teachers
 - Former exhibitors
 - Parents of former exhibitors
 - Community

Who Are We?

- Student Advisory Board - Honor Society
 - Group of 2 or more GSDSEF exhibitors
 - Assist the Management Committee
 - Students throughout San Diego & Imperial Counties
 - Monthly meetings
 - Community service
 - Great on college applications!

Screening

- Over 12,000 projects are done annually
- 992 projects were accepted in 2001
- Best of San Diego are invited to apply
- Occurs in late January and throughout February
- Deadline – 10 days after screening date / February 18 (whichever comes first)
- Teachers, volunteers, and Student Advisory Board Members assist in screening

Growing Numbers

- 2001 was our largest Fair ever
- Too Big!
 - Grown too large for our home (Balboa Park Activity Center)
 - Cannot continue to grow at our current rate
 - No place to put anyone!
 - Shortage of judges for current numbers
 - Quantity of judges constant
 - Can't ensure quality time with each judge

Reducing Numbers

- Reduce number of entrants
 - Ensure number of trials and subjects are tested for project
 - 10 or more trials based on the project
 - 100 or more human subjects
 - 5 plants, 1 dog, etc. are NOT acceptable numbers for test subjects.
 - Ensure a solid scientific method and procedures which can reproduce the experiment
 - Limited amount of variables
 - Specific controls and variables
 - Highest caliber from each school is accepted
 - Reduce number of accepted projects by **at least 10%**.

Fair Week: Tuesday

March 19, 2002

- Registration Day
 - All projects must be registered by 7pm
 - Students are given a booth number
 - Projects are setup
 - Sign up for tours
 - Projects are placed according to division and category

Fair Week: Wednesday

March 20, 2002

- Judging Day
 - Judging from 8am – 2pm
 - Morning session – place awards
 - Lunch hour – 11am – Noon
 - Afternoon session – professional society & special awards
 - No teachers or parent allowed

Fair Week: Thursday & Friday

March 21-22, 2002

- Awards Ceremony
 - Winners announced & awards presented
 - Held at Cox Arena, SDSU
- Tours
- Free Admission
 - San Diego Zoo
 - Balboa Park Museums
- Media Day
 - Press & television media interview students
- CA State Science Fair
 - List available

Fair Week: Saturday

March 23, 2002

- Family Day
 - Activities for the public
 - Encourage attendance to the Fair
 - Educational and Entertainment shows
 - Scavenger Hunt
 - Raffle

Fair Week: Sunday

March 24, 2002

- Tear Down
 - NO project can be removed prior to 5pm
 - Last day to pick up CA State Science Fair applications
 - SAB & Management Committee “tears down” the Fair

Awards

- Place Awards
 - Ribbons & pins
 - Multiple awards given in a category
- Professional Society
 - Independent criteria
 - Awards presented at discretion of society

Awards

- Special Awards
 - Scholarships
 - Trips
 - Sweepstakes Awards
 - Junior Division
 - Plaque + \$200 scholarship
 - Senior Division (\$2000 scholarship plus)
 - International Science and Engineering Fair
 - Taiwan Trip
 - Biomedical Research Institute Scholarship

Results

- Consistently a winning presence at the CA State Fair
- Successful at the ISEF
 - ISEF Detroit 2000: 2 Fourth Place Awards & full scholarship valued at \$73,000.
 - ISEF San Jose 2001: Third Place Award, many governmental awards & scholarships – totaling over \$109,375 & NASA Space Camp Trip
- Thousands of first, second, third and fourth place ribbons awarded
- Pride and self-discovery of a student

Website

- www.gsdsef.org
- Forms
- Rules and Regulations
- Information
 - Teachers/Parents
 - Students
 - Judges/Volunteers
- Awards list
- Articles
 - NewsNote, Press releases, other articles

Other Volunteers

- Judges
 - Professionals throughout San Diego
 - All volunteers
 - Many return year after year
 - All levels of experience
- Volunteers to help throughout the year
 - All disciplines
 - Just don't have to be in science to help!
- Always looking for more!

GSDSEF Affiliations

- Intel International Science and Engineering Fair
 - 53rd Annual Fair: May 11-18, 2002 in Louisville, KY
 - Over 40 countries & 1200 students
 - Awards: Scholarships, Trips, Equipment, etc.
- CA State Science Fair
 - 51st Annual: May 20-21, 2001 in Los Angeles
 - 952 students throughout California
 - Awards: Over \$40,000 in Scholarships

What can you do to help?

- Volunteer to help
 - Management Committee
 - One-time “events”
 - Fair time
- Donate to support the Fair
 - Costs \$80,000 annually to put on the Fair
 - Company support
 - Goods & Services
- Spread the word!

A Community Effort

- The GSDSEF is a product of the community for the community. We take our payment in the pride that students have of their work and the joy in their faces on Awards Night. We've touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of students.
- It doesn't magically happen, but it creates *magic*.