

Pikes Peak Regional Science & Engineering Fair

2025 Final Results

Grand Awards

Senior Division Grand Award

- SA 1 Vanya Lavu [12] (The Classical Academy High School, Margaret Zielinski) “Healthy Gut! Healthy You!: Preclinical Validation of a Novel Enzyme Therapy for Improving Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Overall Gastrointestinal Health in Rattus norvegicus”

Senior Division Grand Award Runner Up

- SD 10 Ayush Vispute [10] (Rampart High School) “ProteinFlow v2 - Biocomputational Analysis of Metabolic Pathways to Uncover Carbon Capturing Bacteria”

International Science Fair Invitation

- SA 1 Vanya Lavu [12] (The Classical Academy High School, Margaret Zielinski) “Healthy Gut! Healthy You!: Preclinical Validation of a Novel Enzyme Therapy for Improving Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Overall Gastrointestinal Health in Rattus norvegicus”
- SD 10 Ayush Vispute [10] (Rampart High School) “ProteinFlow v2 - Biocomputational Analysis of Metabolic Pathways to Uncover Carbon Capturing Bacteria”

Junior Division Grand Award

- JB 4 Cameron Kempisty [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) “Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs PFAS”

Junior Division Grand Award Runner Up

- JA 1 Joanna Raguraman [7] (Discovery Canyon Middle School) “Mnemonic Metamorphosis : Evidence for Persistence Memory Store beyond the brain in Regenerated Planarian Flatworms”

Senior Division People’s Choice

- SA 1 Vanya Lavu [12] (The Classical Academy High School, Margaret Zielinski) “Healthy Gut! Healthy You!: Preclinical Validation of a Novel Enzyme Therapy for Improving Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Overall Gastrointestinal Health in Rattus norvegicus”

Junior Division People’s Choice

- JB 1 Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) “Harnessing Waste – Powering the Future!”

Category Awards

Senior Life Science

First Place – Senior Life Science

- SA 1 Vanya Lavu [12] (The Classical Academy High School, Margaret Zielinski) “Healthy Gut! Healthy You!: Preclinical Validation of a Novel Enzyme Therapy for Improving Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Overall Gastrointestinal Health in *Rattus norvegicus*”

Second Place – Senior Life Science

- SA 4 Cami Wolkow [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “Genetically Enhancing Fungi to Bioremediate Tetracycline”

Third Place – Senior Life Science

- SA 3 Ella Blakeley [11] (Palmer Ridge High School) “Perceptions Across Generations: Analyzing Age-Related Differences on Distinguishing GAN-Generated from Real Facial Stimuli”

Fourth Place – Senior Life Science

- SA 5 Emma Bahr [12] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “Effect of temperature on growth of diatoms *Skeletonema costatum* and *Ditylum brightwellii*”

Senior Earth and Environmental Science

First Place – Senior Earth and Environmental Science

- SB 3 Naomi Kruse [11] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) “Paper for the Planet 2 : Use of novel paper to kickstart microbial succession following California wildfires”

Second Place – Senior Earth and Environmental Science

- SB 2 Abby Rosenhahn [10] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “Plants built for the future: Testing the effects of different mediums on cost effective hydroponic lettuce growth”

Senior Physical and Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

First Place - Senior Physical and Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- SD 10 Ayush Vispute [10] (Rampart High School) “ProteinFlow v2 - Biocomputational Analysis of Metabolic Pathways to Uncover Carbon Capturing Bacteria”

Second Place - Senior Physical and Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- SD 3 Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “A Sustainable Cyanobacteria Mitigation Method for Freshwater Ecosystems in the Rocky Mountain Region”

Third Place - Senior Physical and Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- SD 5 Helen Wan [10] (Pine Creek High School) “Time-Sensitive Medicine Dissolution in a Microgravity Environment Emulated by Acoustic Levitation”

Fourth Place - Senior Physical and Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- SD 4 Lilly Prime [12] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “Analysis and Comparison of Gravitational Wave Event Parameters”

Junior Life Science

First Place – Junior Life Science

- JA 1 Joanna Raguraman [7] (Discovery Canyon Middle School) “Mnemonic Metamorphosis : Evidence for Persistence Memory Store beyond the brain in Regenerated Planarian Flatworms”

Second Place - Junior Life Science

- JA 5 Helen Ostrowski [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) “Who Wrote It? How Genre Affects Students' Ability to Detect AI”

Third Place - Junior Life Science

- JA 4 Tryfan Reynolds [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) “Gray to Green”

Fourth Place - Junior Life Science

- JA 9 Julia Muro [8] (North Middle School) “Modified atmospheric packaging strategies for prolonged strawberry health”

Junior Earth and Environmental Science

First Place – Junior Earth and Environmental Science

- JB 4 Cameron Kempisty [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) “Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs PFAS”

Second Place - Junior Earth and Environmental Science

- JB 1 Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) “Harnessing Waste – Powering the Future!”

Junior Physical Science

First Place – Junior Physical Science

- JC 4 Bianca Buczkowski [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) “Are Solar Trackers worth installing on Solar Panels”

Second Place - Junior Physical Science

- JC 3 Sierra Winslow [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) “Where does radon gas typically accumulate in a house?”

Third Place - Junior Physical Science

- JC 1 Chloe Martinich [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) “What Material Makes The Best Parachute”

Fourth Place - Junior Physical Science

- JC 8 Gabriel Huston [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) “Speedy magnetic linear accelerators”

Junior Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

First Place – Junior Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- JD 14 Laurel Kent [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) “Magic Mouse: A touchless, Theremin-based mouse to help people with hand limitations”

Second Place - Junior Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- JD 5 Winston Fulson [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) “How does tire pressure effect drivability”

Third Place - Junior Engineering , Mathematics and Computer Science

- JD 2 Lilly Tong [8] (Challenger Middle School) “Creating an OCR with a Raspberry Pi to help the blind”

Fourth Place - Junior Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- JD 6 Elli Rufenacht [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) “Developing a Prototype Vehicle with Airbag Deployment in Rear-End Collisions”

Fifth Place - Junior Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- JD 10 Lucia Montello [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) “CO H2O: Identifying the optimal multi-variate linear regression model for water conservation in Colorado”

Sixth Place - Junior Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

- JD 16 Avaneesh Sinha [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) “Aerodynamic Wing Design using Speed Compression”

Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

CSEF Invitations

- Emma Bahr [SA 5] [12] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “Effect of temperature on growth of diatoms *Skeletonema costatum* and *Ditylum brightwellii*”
- Ella Blakeley [SA 3] [11] (Palmer Ridge High School) “Perceptions Across Generations: Analyzing Age-Related Differences on Distinguishing GAN-Generated from Real Facial Stimuli”
- Bianca Buczkowski [JC 4] [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) “Are Solar Trackers worth installing on Solar Panels”
- Winston Fulson [JD 5] [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) “How does tire pressure effect drivability”
- Cameron Kempisty [JB 4] [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) “Going Nuts Over Biochar: Pistachios vs PFAS”
- Laurel Kent [JD 14] [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) “Magic Mouse: A touchless, Theremin-based mouse to help people with hand limitations”
- Naomi Kruse [SB 3] [11] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) “Paper for the Planet 2 : Use of novel paper to kickstart microbial succession following California wildfires”
- Vanya Lavu [SA 1] [12] (The Classical Academy High School, Margaret Zielinski) “Healthy Gut! Healthy You!: Preclinical Validation of a Novel Enzyme Therapy for Improving Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Overall Gastrointestinal Health in *Rattus norvegicus*”
- Julia Muro [JA 9] [8] (North Middle School) “Modified atmospheric packaging strategies for prolonged strawberry health”
- Natalie Muro [SD 3] [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “A Sustainable Cyanobacteria Mitigation Method for Freshwater Ecosystems in the Rocky Mountain Region”
- Helen Ostrowski [JA 5] [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) “Who Wrote It? How Genre Affects Students' Ability to Detect AI”
- Jainil Parikh [JB 1] [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) “Harnessing Waste – Powering the Future!”
- Lilly Prime [SD 4] [12] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “Analysis and Comparison of Gravitational Wave Event Parameters”
- Joanna Raguraman [JA 1] [7] (Discovery Canyon Middle School) “Mnemonic Metamorphosis : Evidence for Persistence Memory Store beyond the brain in Regenerated Planarian Flatworms”
- Abby Rosenhahn [SB 2] [10] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “Plants built for the future: Testing the effects of different mediums on cost effective hydroponic lettuce growth”
- Ayush Vispute [SD 10] [10] (Rampart High School) “ProteinFlow v2 - Biocomputational Analysis of Metabolic Pathways to Uncover Carbon Capturing Bacteria”
- Helen Wan [SD 5] [10] (Pine Creek High School) “Time-Sensitive Medicine Dissolution in a Microgravity Environment Emulated by Acoustic Levitation”
- Sierra Winslow [JC 3] [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) “Where does radon gas typically accumulate in a house?”
- Cami Wolkow [SA 4] [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) “Genetically Enhancing Fungi to Bioremediate Tetracycline”

2025 PPRSEF SPECIAL AWARDS

American Association of University Women Junior

- Vivian Wolkow [8] (North Middle School, Erryn Tanner) JA8

American Association of University Women Senior

- Abby Rosenhahn [10] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SB2

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Rocky Mtn Section Junior

- Nikolai Laptev [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JD4

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Rocky Mtn Section Senior

- Lilly Prime [12] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD4

American Psychological Association

- Ella Blakeley [11] (Palmer Ridge High School) SA3

American Statistical Association CO/WY Junior

- Vivian Wolkow [8] (North Middle School, Erryn Tanner) JA8

American Statistical Association CO/WY Senior

- Helen Wan [10] (Pine Creek High School) SD1

Association for Women Geoscientists

- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3

Association for Women Geoscientists

- Cameron Kempisty [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JB4

Auria Junior 1st

- Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JB1

Auria Junior 2nd

- Nikolai Laptev [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JD4

Auria Senior 1st

- Zijun Xu [10] (Fountain Valley School of Colorado, Stephen Shadle) SD2

Auria Senior 2nd

- Sophie Zhou [11] (Cheyenne Mountain High School) SD8

Broadcom Coding with Commitment

- Lily Tong [8] (Challenger Middle School) JD2

BSCS

- Emma Bahr [12] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SA5

Citizens Project Junior

- Lucia Montello [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD10

Citizens Project Senior

- Naomi Kruse [11] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) SB3

Colorado Associates in Medical Physics

- Sierra Winslow [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JC3
- Gabriel Huston [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JC8

Colorado Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society Junior Awards

- Cameron Kempisty [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JB4
- Lucia Montello [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD10

Colorado Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society Senior 1st

- Naomi Kruse [10] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) SB6

Colorado Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society Senior 2nd

- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3

Colorado College Excellence in Community and Social Justice

- Ayush Vispute [10] (Rampart High School) SD10
- Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JB1

Colorado College Excellence in Field-Based Research

- Naomi Kruse [11] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) SB3
- Lucia Montello [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD10

Colorado College Excellence in Rocky Mountain Regional Research

- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3
- Cameron Kempisty [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JB4

Colorado College Excellence in Sustainability and Conservation

- David Kent [10] (Air Academy High School) SD7
- Jocelyn Hoekstra [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JB2

Cool Science Technical Presentation Award Junior

- Julia Muro [8] (North Middle School, Steven Wolf) JA9

Cool Science Technical Presentation Award Senior

- Cami Wolkow [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SA4

Crosson Family Award

- Julia Muro [8] (North Middle School, Steven Wolf) JA9
- Helen Ostrowski [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) JA5
- Lily Tong [8] (Challenger Middle School) JD2
- Jocelyn Hoekstra [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JB2

Deep Space Exploration Society Junior 1st

- Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JB1

Deep Space Exploration Society Junior 2nd

- Nikolai Laptev [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JD4

Deep Space Exploration Society Senior 1st

- Lilly Prime [12] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD4

Deep Space Exploration Society Senior 2nd

- Helen Wan [10] (Pine Creek High School) SD1

DOD STEM Leadership Prize

- Lucia Montello [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD10

El Paso County Conservation District Excellence Award Junior

- Lucia Montello [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD10

El Paso County Conservation District Excellence Award Senior

- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3

El Paso County Conservation District Cultivator Award Junior

- Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JB1

El Paso County Conservation District Cultivator Award Senior

- Naomi Kruse [11] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) SB3

El Paso County Conservation District Green Steward Award Junior

- Tryfan Reynolds [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JA4

El Paso County Conservation District Green Steward Award Senior

- Abby Rosenhahn [10] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SB2

EPA Encouragement Letter

- Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JB1
- Jocelyn Hoekstra [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JB2
- Astrid Leonard [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JB3
- Cameron Kempisty [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JB4
- Olivia Hollenbeck [7] (North Middle School)
- Nikolai Laptev [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JD4
- Samuel Victor [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JD8
- Madeline (Maddie) Matisek [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD9
- Lucia Montello [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD10
- Benjamin Knauf [7] (Lewis Palmer Middle School) JD11
- Ayush Vispute [10] (Rampart High School) SD10
- Abby Rosenhahn [10] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SB2
- Naomi Kruse [10] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) SB6
- Kayden Mai [12], Kayvee Mai [10], Ayla Pham [12] (Odyssey ECCO, James Owino) SB4
- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3
- David Kent [10] (Air Academy High School) SD7

Flagline.com Young Scientist Award Junior 1st

- Kyziah Stansell [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JC11

Flagline.com Young Scientist Award Junior 2nd

- Jocelyn Hoekstra [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JB2

Flagline.com Young Scientist Award Senior 1st

- Antonio Mendoza [9] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SA7

Flagline.com Young Scientist Award Senior 2nd

- Kayden Mai [12], Kayvee Mai [12], Ayla Pham [12] (Odyssey ECCO, James Owino) SB4

Lemelson Early Inventor Prize

- Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JB1

Georgia and Charlie Matteson Award Junior

- Astrid Leonard [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JB3

Georgia and Charlie Matteson Award Senior

- Abby Rosenhahn [10] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SB2

NASA Earth System Science Award

- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3

NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) 6th

- Gabriel Huston [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JC8

NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) 6th

- Benjamin Araujo [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JD1

NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) 6th

- Samuel Victor [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JD8

NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) 7th

- Avaneesh Sinha [7] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JD16

NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) 7th

- Ellis Evans [7] (The Colorado Springs School, Caren Goldberg) JD12

NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association) 8th

- Angelina Wan [8] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JD13

National Society of Professional Engineers Junior

- Lucia Montello [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD10

National Society of Professional Engineers Senior

- Natalie Muro [10] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3

NOAA

- Ayush Vispute [10] (Rampart High School) SD10

Old Town Bike Shop

- Cami Wolkow [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SA4
- Emma Bahr [12] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SA5
- Naomi Kruse [11] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) SB3
- Bianca Buczkowski [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) JC4

Patent and Trademark Office Society (Overall Winner)

- Advith Kota [11] (Pine Creek High School) SA9

Patent and Trademark Office Society

- Naomi Kruse [11] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) SB6
- Ayush Vispute [10] (Rampart High School) SD10
- Jainil Parikh [6] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JB1
- Sierra Winslow [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JC3
- Vivian Wolkow [8] (North Middle School, Erryn Tanner) JA8
- Lily Tong [8] (Challenger Middle School) JD2

Peak STEM Academy 6th Grade 1st

- Chloe Martinich [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JC1

Peak STEM Academy 6th Grade 2nd

- Nora Silver [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JC7

Peak STEM Academy 7th Grade 1st

- Avaneesh Sinha [7] (Challenger Middle School, Selina Webb) JD16

Peak STEM Academy 7th Grade 2nd

- Benjamin Knauf [7] (Lewis Palmer Middle School) JD11

Pikes Peak Peace and Justice Commission

- Rylan Chafin [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JD5

PPRSEF Chemistry and Biochemistry Award

- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3

Regeneron Biomedical Science Award

- Advith Kota [11] (Pine Creek High School) SA9

Ricoh Americas

- Tryfan Reynolds [6] (Eagleview Middle School) JA4

Society for In Vitro Biology

- Cami Wolkow [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SA4

Society for Women Engineers Junior

- Bianca Buczkowski [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) JC4

Society for Women Engineers Senior

- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3

Space Foundation

- Yiyang Wang [11] (Fountain Valley School of Colorado) SD6

Stockholm Junior Water Prize

- Natalie Muro [11] (Palmer High School, Nathaniel Lohmann) SD3

Thermo Fisher Junior Innovator Award

- Lucia Montello [7] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD10
- Joanna Raguramon [7] (Discovery Canyon) JA1
- Bianca Buczkowski [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) JC4
- Cameron Kempisty [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JB4
- Laurel Kent [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD14

USAID (US Agency for International Development) from the American People

- Ayush Vispute [10] (Rampart High School) SD10

US Air Force Junior

- Nikolai Laptev [6] (Eagleview Middle School, Jenine Winslow) JD4
- Ellis Evans [7] (The Colorado Springs School) JD11

US Air Force Senior

- Shangjia Wang [11], Yvette Wu [11] (Fountain Valley of Colorado, Carissa Misch) SD9

US Metric Association

- Bianca Buczkowski [8] (Monument Academy, Karl Brown) JC4

US Navy Science Award Junior

- Benjamin Knauf [7] (Lewis Palmer Middle School) JD11
- Laurel Kent [8] (Eagleview Middle School, Elizabeth Busler) JD14

US Navy Science Award Senior

- David Kent [10] (Air Academy High School) SD7
- Yiyang Wang [11] (Fountain Valley School of Colorado, Danielle Llewelyn) SD6

Yale Science and Engineering Association

- Naomi Kruse [11] (Schullandheim, Tami Kruse) SB3

CAST Awards for Teachers

- Caren Goldberg - The Colorado Springs School
- Danielle Llewelyn - Fountain Valley School of Colorado
- Carissa Misch - Fountain Valley School of Colorado
- Delilah Mott-Slater – Swigert Aerospace Academy
- James Owino – Odyssey Early College and Career Options
- Stephen Shadle – Fountain Valley School of Colorado