

IV. AWARDS

A. SECTION AWARDS

Description: Certificates, medals or ribbons, and cash awards are given for the best student research papers presented in competition at the annual VJAS meeting. First, Second, Third, and up to three (3) Honorable Mention Places may be given in each of the following categories:

Agricultural and Animal Science
Animal Behavior (Ethology)
Botany
Chemistry
Computer Science
Consumer Science
Earth and Space Science
Engineering
Environmental Science
Genetics and Cellular Biology
Mathematics
Medicine and Health
Microbiology
Physics
Physical Science - (Grades 7, 8 and 9 only)
Psychology - General
Psychology - Learning and Perception
Psychology - Social
Statistics
Zoology

When there are multiple sections in a category, awards will be given in each section.

Procedures: Papers chosen for presentation will be judged in the sections of each category by the section judges. These judges will evaluate both the research paper and the oral presentation of the research at the annual meeting for final selection of First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention winners. The decision of these judges is final.

Criteria: The criteria for these awards appear as the points considered by the judges on the Judge's Form.

B. FIRST PLACE PAPER AWARDS

GAMMA SIGMA DELTA VPI & SU Chapter of the Honor Society of Agriculture

Description: A certificate and cash award are given to a student in recognition of excellence in research dealing with the application of new technologies and/or concepts in agriculture, forestry, or veterinary medicine.

Procedure: The best paper in Agriculture and Animal Science receives this award.

BOTANY AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award is given by the Botany Section of the VAS for outstanding research presented in a Botany section of the VJAS.

Procedure: Section judges will select the winner from among the first place papers in the Botany sections.

RODNEY C. BERRY CHEMISTRY AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given for outstanding research in the field of chemistry.

Procedure: Section judges will select the winner from among the first place papers in the Chemistry sections.

WILLIAM W. BERRY ENGINEERING

Description: A certificate and a savings bond are given to the best paper in the field of Engineering. The award was established by Dominion Virginia Power in honor of retired Virginia Power Chairman, W. W. Berry.

Procedure: Section judges will select the best paper from among the first place papers in the Engineering sections.

ANN M. HANCOCK

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given to the best paper in cellular biology. This award is given in memory of Ann Hancock who retired from the Hanover County Public Schools.

Procedure: The best paper in Cellular Biology receives this award.

ROSCOE HUGHES

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given to the best paper in the field of Genetics.

Procedure: The best paper in Genetics receives this award.

MATHEMATICS AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given for outstanding research in mathematics.

Procedure: The best paper in the Mathematics category wins this award.

STATISTICS AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given for outstanding research in statistics.

Procedure: The best paper in the Statistics category wins this award.

VABE AWARD

Description: Certificates and up to two (2) cash awards are presented for outstanding research in Zoology. These awards are supported by the Virginia Association of Biological Educators.

Procedure: The best paper in Zoology receives this award.

RUSSELL J. ROWLETT RESEARCH PAPER

Description: A certificate and cash award are given to a senior student whose paper read at the annual meeting evidences the most significant contribution to science.

Procedure: First Place Senior papers of all sections will be considered for this award. A special panel of judges evaluates the papers.

Criteria:

1. Significant scientific contribution, basic or applied.
2. Originality of thought.
3. Independent student effort.
4. Oral presentation will NOT be a factor.

C. SPECIAL AWARDS

TRIP TO AJAS - NAAS - AAAS MEETING

Description: Two winners and two alternates presenting outstanding papers at the annual meeting will be invited to attend the annual meeting and present their papers as a poster presentation before the American Junior Academy of Science (AJAS) section. Most of the winning students' expenses will be furnished by the VJAS. Depending on its financial status and trip cost, the VJAS will attempt to cover the alternates' expenses as well. **Seventh graders and Seniors will NOT be selected for this award.** A student can win this award only two (2) times. **Students chosen to represent the Commonwealth of Virginia are required to attend all activities and house with the students.**

Procedure: A special panel of judges selects the winners and alternates from among the first place winners in all sections.

AAAS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Description: A certificate and one year's membership, without cost, in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) including a subscription to *Science* will be awarded to a female VJAS member and a male VJAS member.

Procedure: Nominations may be made by a club sponsor, any VJAS Committee member, or by a member of the Virginia Academy of Science. Nominations and supporting information is to be sent to the VJAS Director prior to the annual meeting. Nominees must meet one or more of the criteria listed below. The VJAS Committee determines the winners.

Criteria:

1. Participating in a program other than the VJAS annual meeting when invited by the VJAS Committee or serving as an official representative of the VJAS.
2. Serving as an officer of the VJAS.

VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Description: A certificate and one year's membership, without cost, in the Virginia Academy of Science including a subscription to the *Virginia Journal of Science* will be awarded.

Procedure: Nominations may be made by a club sponsor, any VJAS Committee member, or a member of the VAS. Nominations and supporting materials are to be sent to the VJAS Director prior to the annual meeting. The award is based upon one or more of the following criteria. The VJAS Committee selects the winner.

Criteria:

1. Serving as an officer of the VJAS.
2. Working in a commendable manner for a local or state VJAS activity.
3. Dedication to being a good VJAS member as exhibited by assistance in such activities at the annual meeting as registration, balloting, and program planning.

D. SPECIAL INTEREST AWARDS

Special Interest Awards must be applied for in advance of the VJAS annual meeting. Only papers accepted for presentation are eligible, so students must wait until notified of acceptance before applying. Application is made by submitting a Special Interest Award and Scholarship Application form available from the VJAS Handbook, Appendix D-Special Forms. Follow the instructions on the form carefully. Special Interest Award and Scholarship application forms and accompanying information must be sent by **Certified** mail to the address noted on the form by **April 25**. A separate form is required for each Special Interest Award/Scholarship application. A student must present his/her paper at the meeting to be eligible for these Special Interest Awards/Scholarships.

CANCER RESEARCH AWARDS

Description: Certificates and cash awards are given by the American Cancer Society for outstanding research relevant to cancer studies.

Procedure: Selection of the winning papers is made by the Cancer Research Award judges.

DOROTHY KNOWLTON AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given in honor of Dorothy Knowlton for the best experimental design used in the planning and procedures contained in a paper accepted in the Consumer Science section(s). Dorothy Knowlton, the former Science Coordinator of Arlington County, was instrumental in advancing experimental design within the science curriculum and chaired the Consumer Science section of VJAS for many years.

Procedures: The selection of the winning paper is made by the Dorothy Knowlton Award judges based on the written paper.

DR. AND MRS. PRESTON H. LEAKE AWARD IN APPLIED CHEMISTRY

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given to the paper that shows in some way how chemicals, chemical principles, or chemistry have been used, or might be used to enhance or even save lives - ways chemistry may be used to provide better things for better living.

Procedure: Selection of the winning paper is made by the Dr. and Mrs. Preston H. Leake Award in Applied Chemistry judges.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given to commemorate Dr. Smith Shadomy by the Virginia Chapter of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases to the paper that evidences outstanding research in the field of infectious diseases.

Procedure: Selection of the winning paper is made by the Infectious Disease Award judges.

JOYCE K. PETERSON AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given to the Middle School student judged to have written the best paper.

Procedure: The selection of the winning paper is made by the Joyce K. Peterson Award judges based on the written paper.

SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given by the Richmond Area Speleological Society for outstanding research addressing karst or topics related to speleology (bats, caves, carbonate geology, paleoenvironments, limestone fossils, sinkholes, etc).

Procedure: Selection of the winning paper is made by the Speleology Society Award judges based on the written paper.

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY AWARD

Description: Presented by VMNH in recognition of significant contribution in the study and interpretation of Virginia's natural heritage.

Procedures: Selection of the winning paper is made by a representative of the Friends of the VMNH.

VIRGINIA SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM AWARD

Description: A certificate and a cash award are given by the Virginia Sea Grant College Program for outstanding marine or coastal research.

Procedure: Selection of the winning paper is made by the Virginia Sea Grant College Program Award judges.

E. OTHER HONORS

E.C.L. MILLER SCIENCE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Description: The ECL Miller Teacher of the Year receives an all expense paid trip to the next American Association for the Advancement of Science/American Junior Academy of Science convention to a teacher or sponsor of grades 7-12.

Procedure: Nominations may be made by students, science clubs, colleagues, parents, and administrators. The nominator is responsible for submitting all the required documents which must be postmarked, first class mail, by **April 25**. A stamped envelope, addressed to the nominator, will be used to notify the nominator that the materials have been received by the VJAS Director. All submitted documents will be confidential and will become the property of the VJAS. Nominations may be made for only the year in which the award is given. Nominations may be resubmitted in succeeding years. No teacher may win the award more than once in a three-year period. All nominees are asked to attend the VJAS Committee Dinner before the General Session; see Program for exact time and location...found on web site www.vjas.org. A subcommittee of the VJAS Committee will evaluate the nominees and determine the winner.

Documents to be submitted for VAS Teacher of the Year award:

1. Cover letter from a nominator (including reasons for the nomination.
2. Letters of support:
 - a) two (2) from students.
 - b) two (2) from colleagues.
 - c) one (1) from a school administrator.

This letter **MUST** include authorization for the winner to attend the AAAS/AJAS meeting for at least the duration of the AJAS portion.
3. The candidate's resume.
4. Stamped envelope addressed to the nominator.

VJAS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Description: A special certificate is presented to a person for exceptionally outstanding service to the VJAS and public recognition is given at the annual meeting. This is the most prestigious award that the VJAS gives.

Procedure: Selection of the person or persons to receive this award is the responsibility of the VJAS Committee and recommendations may be made at any of the regular committee meetings. One or more may be chosen in any year but it is expected that the giving of this award will not be an annual event.

Criteria: No set criteria are described. The award is given only when time of service devoted to the VJAS and its aims is deemed exceptionally outstanding and distinguished.