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**63<sup>rd</sup> Annual State Science Day Awards Rise to \$3.8 Million  
in Prizes/Scholarships for STEM Scholars**

*The Ohio State University Welcomed 1000+ Students to Campus for Event*

**COLUMBUS, OHIO** — Nearly 1,150 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>-grade science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) students representing 300 schools from 66 Ohio counties exhibited their scientific research and technological design projects at the 63<sup>rd</sup> annual **State Science Day** on Saturday, May 7, 2011. Held at The Ohio State University's French Field House in Columbus, the event honored students with scholarships and awards valued at nearly \$3.8 million from nearly 100 sponsors.

"**State Science Day** is a significant event in the academic lives of these young students; it is the final competition in Ohio's largest and most influential STEM education program," said Lynn Elfner, chief executive officer of The Ohio Academy of Science. "**State Science Day** prepares students for success in college and in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century workplace through project-based, real world learning."

Since 1949, **State Science Day** has helped more than 60,000 students develop effective skill sets for creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, and communication and collaboration.

Sponsored by The Ohio Academy of Science, American Electric Power, The Ohio Environmental Education Fund, Boehringer Ingelheim Roxane, Inc. and Battelle, and hosted by The Ohio State University, **State Science Day** is the academic equivalent of a state athletic championship. Judges evaluate students on originality and creativity, use of scientific method, clarity of expression, and knowledge achieved.

Among the many awards handed out at **State Science Day** were the Governor's Thomas Edison Awards for Excellence in Student Research in Advanced or Alternative Energy; Advanced Materials; Agriculture and Food Technology; Biotechnology and Biomedical Technologies; Environmental Sciences and Information Technology. Sponsors for the Governor's Awards include The Ohio Department of Agriculture, the Ohio Department of Development (Technology Division), the Ohio Environmental Education Fund, and several Edison Technology Centers.

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Six students received the rare six-year awardee plaque for participating in **State Science Day** every year of their eligibility. They are:

- Mr. Ameya A. Deshmukh, Upper Arlington H.S., Upper Arlington
- Mr. Benjamin J. Hedges, Bloom Carroll H.S., Carroll
- Mr. Tyler D. Kubina, Tuscarawas Valley H.S., Zoarville
- Ms. Yelee Lee, Upper Arlington H.S., Upper Arlington
- Ms. Sarah K. Mayo, Chesapeake H.S., Chesapeake; and
- Ms. Micaela S. Rockwell, East Richland Christian School, St. Clairsville.

Family members of the late Harold C. Shaw, a longtime science teacher and **State Science Day** judge from Eaton, were present to witness the attainment of the award named in his honor. The following schools received the Harold C. Shaw Memorial Outstanding School Award, earned by schools that either had at least four students receive a "Superior" rating or had more than four projects with 80 percent of the students receiving a "Superior":

- Fairfield M.S. (Fairfield)
- Geneva J.S. (Geneva)
- St. Andrew (Columbus)
- St. Vincent St. Mary (Akron)
- Sycamore H.S. (Cincinnati)
- Sylvania Southview H.S. (Sylvania)

More information about **State Science Day** and the 2011 event results can be found online at <http://www.ohiosci.org/ssd.htm>.

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**Editor's Note:** *The results (without home addresses) are posted alphabetically by school at <http://www.ohiosci.org/2011SSDReportforWeb.pdf>.*

*The Department of Conference Management in The Ohio State University Office of Continuing Education (CEd) specializes in providing meeting and conference management services — from pre-conference concept to post-conference follow-up — on a cost-effective basis to the university community as well as to private and public businesses and associations. For more information on CEd's Conference Management services, visit [ced.osu.edu](http://ced.osu.edu) and click on "Conference Management," or call the Office of Continuing Education at (614) 292-8571.*