

# **Welcome to the COCC Regional Science Expo 2026 High School Award Ceremony**

**Special Awards**

## **Citadel Securities Innovation Prize**

**sponsored by: Citadel Securities**

**Liam Bales, Oliver Buchanan, Jonathan Davanzo : Summit High School**  
*for... "EEG/BCI/CNN-LSTM Individual Finger Identification for Robot Hand Control"*

## **U.S. Regional Stockholm Junior Water Prize**

**sponsored by: Water Environment Federation**

**Lillian Han-Garczynski : Trinity Lutheran School**  
*for... "The Kratky Method of Hydroponics"*

## **Student Award for Geoscience Excellence**

**sponsored by: Association Of Women Geoscientists**

**Sofia Matrisciano : Bend Science Station**  
*for... "Science to Cell-ebtrate! A Continued Examination of the Effects of Copper on Methylovimicrobium buryatense 5GB1C Bacteria"*

## **NASA Earth System Science Award**

**sponsored by: NASA**

**Sofia Matrisciano : Bend Science Station**  
*for... "Science to Cell-ebtrate! A Continued Examination of the Effects of Copper on Methylovimicrobium buryatense 5GB1C Bacteria"*

## **NOAA's Taking the Pulse of the Planet**

**sponsored by: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Jillian Anderegg : Trinity Lutheran School**

*for... "The development of a robotic fish with biomimetic sensors to monitor the effects of climate change on marine ecosystems."*

**Outstanding Project in In Vitro Biology**

**sponsored by: Society for in Vitro Biology**

**Zoe Chung : Bend Science Station**

*for... "Un-BEE-lievable Honey, A Study that Examines the Antibacterial Properties of Honey from Different Regions of Oregon"*

**Ricoh Sustainable Development Award**

**sponsored by: Ricoh Corporation**

**Luke Shirtcliff, Brandon Garcia Huerta : Bend Science Station**

*for... "An exploration of raw and chemically activated anthracite and bituminous coal on nitrate removal in a stirred batch system"*

**Outstanding Project by an 11th Grade Student**

**sponsored by: Yale Science and Engineering Association, Inc.**

**Vida Halpern : Bend Science Station**

*for... "A continued exploration on the effects of the blue oyster mushroom (*Pleurotus ostreatus* var. *columinus*) on plastics and aluminum foil."*

**Outstanding Use of the International System of Units**

**sponsored by: U.S. Metric Association**

**Simone Halpern : Bend Science Station**

*for... "An exploration into the ideal ratio of lime and hydrated lime used as neutralization agents on simulated acid mine drainage"*

**Outstanding Research in Psychology**

**sponsored by: American Psychological Association**

**Laura Frazier, Hallie Feeney : Trinity Lutheran School**

*for... "Does Bionic Font Affect High Schoolers?"*

## **Naval Excellence in Science and Engineering Award**

**sponsored by: Office of Naval Research, US Navy and Marine Corps**

**Kellan Gibler : Bend Science Station**

*for... "Exploring how Indian stick insect (*Carasius morosus*) growth rate is affected by car exhaust contamination on its food"*

**Max Knoth : Bend Science Station**

*for... "The Effects of Different Concentrations and Exposure Time of a PHOS-CHEK Fire Retardant Mixture on Germination of *Pinus ponderosa* Seeds"*

## **U.S. Air Force Outstanding Project**

**sponsored by: U.S. Air Force**

**Calvin Cools, Parker Jones, Easton Payer : Trinity Lutheran School**

*for... "SimpleBCI: AI-Powered Biosensing for the Masses"*

**Jaclyn FitzHenry : Trinity Lutheran School**

*for... "The Effects of Environmental Stressors on Plants"*

## **Regeneron Biomedical Science Award**

**sponsored by: Regeneron**

**Zoe Chung : Bend Science Station**

*for... "Un-BEE-lievable Honey, A Study that Examines the Antibacterial Properties of Honey from Different Regions of Oregon"*

## **Advancing to Northwest Science Expo**

**sponsored by: Northwest Science Expo**

**Kellan Gibler : Bend Science Station**

*for... "Exploring how Indian stick insect (*Carasius morosus*) growth rate is affected by car exhaust contamination on its food"*

**Liam Bales, Oliver Buchanan, Jonathan Davanzo : Summit High School**

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*for... "The development of a robotic fish with biomimetic sensors to monitor the effects of climate change on marine ecosystems."*

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*for... "Science to Cell-ebrate! A Continued Examination of the Effects of Copper on Methylovibrio buryatense 5GB1C Bacteria"*

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**Simone Halpern : Bend Science Station**

*for... "An exploration into the ideal ratio of lime and hydrated lime used as neutralization agents on simulated acid mine drainage"*

**OSU General Scholarship**

**sponsored by: Oregon State University**

**Vida Halpern : Bend Science Station**

*for... "A continued exploration on the effects of the blue oyster mushroom (Pleurotus ostreatus var. columinus) on plastics and aluminum foil."*

**Spencer Anderegg : Trinity Lutheran School**

*for... "The Development and Analysis of Magnetized PDMS Sorbents and Transporter-Modified Green/Brown Algae for Oil Spill Remediation"*

**Regeneron ISEF Finalist**

**sponsored by: Northwest Science Expo System**

**Liam Bales, Oliver Buchanan, Jonathan Davanzo : Summit High School**  
*for.. "EEG/BCI/CNN-LSTM Individual Finger Identification for Robot Hand Control"*