

Vienna International Science and Engineering Fair

Saturday 21 March 2020

Vienna International School, Str. der Menschenrechte 1, 1220 Vienna

NEWSLETTER NO. 3, February 2020

2020 WILL BE THE BEST VIENNA SCIENCE FAIR EVER

Borealis Student Innovation Prize

Do you want to participate in the Science Fair but can't think of what you want to do? Well, you should know about a recent initiative of the Science Fair's major sponsor, the Borealis Group.

The Science Fair organizers just announced that the Borealis Group, has created a special challenge. An individual or team can participate in a special category for the **Borealis Student Innovation Prize**. The project that is chosen as the best in that category would be awarded an iPad and a visit to the Borealis Innovation Centre in Linz which is a state-of-the-art research facility. The students and their science teacher will learn about this world-class facility and be able to talk with Borealis scientists and engineers.

Borealis designed the project to consider the challenges of today such as reduction of CO₂ emissions and opportunities of the future. It is open to both Juniors and Seniors. Consideration will, however, be given to the grade level when considering the winner. The project can be a conceptual study or a model or a combination.

Modular Electrical Vehicle

The aim of this project is to design a modular electrical vehicle in order to reduce CO₂ emissions. This vehicle can be composed of different modules which allows:

- Agile daily/short-distance transportation i.e. trips within the city, e.g., to the grocery store.
- Enough space and capacity for long-distance transportation i.e. trips to different countries or to a mountain resort.

In order to design and/or build such a vehicle, the students will need to think about the design of the different modules, the properties of the materials and what kind of materials would be best. A project can concern itself with a whole vehicle, or perhaps one of its components!

Unfortunately, there is not a great deal of time left, but enough to start the project and then get to improve on it for next year. So, get going!!

Freebies, Awards and Special Awards

This year the freebies and rewards will be even better and the number of special awards more abundant than last year.

Upon registration at VIS every student with a project will receive a goodies bag which will include, among other things, a specially designed Science Fair T-shirt and souvenirs from our sponsors.

The Best in each Category and Best in the Junior and Senior Division will receive a special Award Certificate and a prize of at least a €100 gift certificate, and it will be much higher for winners of the best Senior or Junior Divisions.

This year, we will have even better and more meaningful awards for some of the winners. The winners of the Borealis Student Innovation Prize will get to go to the Linz Borealis Innovation Centre. Expanding on that theme, one set of winners will get to meet with a very senior IAEA official to learn about the functioning of a scientific UN organization while another set of winners will get to spend some time learning about the IAEA's Seibersdorf laboratory from a laboratory director and her staff.

In addition to those awards, the Judges will also give out several awards to recognize other projects of merit. And, there will also be awards to the best Junior and Senior project submitted by female student(s). All these awards will also receive at least a €100 gift certificate.

Photo Booth/Other Entertainment

This year the Science Fair will feature a Mosybox Photobooth for students to take photos with science props and their friends. Silly or serious, whatever you want. Then you can take the photos home as another reminder of the Science Fair.

We have also been informed that some of the VIS students are hard at work organizing quizzes during the lunch time as well as a movie screening during the afternoon.

If you also have ideas of how you can entertain your fellow students during the lunchtime, let us know. Write to the Science Fair organizer, Naida Dzigal at N.DZIGAL@iaea.org.

Organizational

How do I register for the Science Fair?

Once you have a project in mind, check out the Science Fair website where you will find information for doing a project and where you can register your project: <https://win-iaea.org/science-fair/>.

Registration of projects and participants should be made now. If you are working on a project, register and then, if you need to make changes to the registration, they can be made, within reason, before the final registration change deadline of 15 March 2020. After that date, changes can only be made with the agreement of the Science Fair Coordinator, n.dzigal@iaea.org.

If you experience problems in the registration process, please contact your Science Teacher or the Science Fair Coordinator.

What happens after registering online?

When all the projects are registered, the organizers will arrange the entries into several Junior and Senior categories of similar scientific disciplines. These categories generally include 6-10 projects. After assessing the projects and interviewing the students, the Judges will determine the overall merit of each project. Every project will get a Certificate of Participation and the ribbon designated by the Judges: Superior, Excellent and Honorable Mention corresponding to Yellow, Blue and Red ribbons.

The appropriate ribbon(s) for each member of a project and certificates of participation will be placed on each project before the Science Fair is open to the public. The Judges then will select the Best in each of the categories followed by the determination of Best Junior Project and the Best Senior Project. Judges are then free to make special awards, particularly for projects of merit that did not win a prize.

The winners will be announced at the Awards Reception which will be held immediately following the Science Fair. **All participants in the fair are invited (free of charge) to the Awards Reception.**

What is the schedule for the Science Fair?

Friday, 20 March 2020

1700 to 2000 - Register at the VIS. Pick up your registration packet in foyer and set up your project display.

Saturday, 21 March 2020

1000 - Students at their project display for interviews.

1000 to 1200 - Interviews by at least three judges.

1200 to 1400 - Lunch and lunchtime activities

1400 to 1600 - Public viewing. Students stay with their projects.

1600 to 1730 - Awards Reception

1730 Dismantling of the projects.

Science Fair Sponsors



