

# Backgrounder on the Ottawa Regional Science Fair (ORSF)

The Ottawa Regional Science Fair (ORSF) is run by a volunteer organization that encourages Ottawa-area students in Grade 7-12, to conduct and present original research in science and technology. **The 49<sup>th</sup> Annual ORSF takes place April 9-10, 2010 at Hillcrest High School.**

The Fair brings together students from regional school boards and a number of private schools. It invites entries in English or French, in six categories:

- Life sciences
- Biotechnology
- Earth and environmental sciences
- Physical and mathematical sciences
- Engineering and computer sciences
- Health sciences

Each year, more than 200 projects are entered and judged in the junior, intermediate, and senior divisions. Participants compete for one of 11 invitations to represent Ottawa at the Canada-Wide Science Fair, hosted this year by Trent University in Peterborough. Ottawa's entries invariably place highly against a field of 450 finalists from across Canada (see list of 2009 finalists, right column). Projects are also eligible for a number of special awards at the ORSF, sponsored by local post-secondary institutions, associations, and businesses.

A program that began in a small school gym in 1961 has grown into a substantial event. Students gain experience and confidence with the process of planning, carrying out, and presenting their research. A large proportion of entries are drawn from science fairs at individual schools, making the ORSF a catalyst for science education across the city.

Each year since 2007, the program has drawn more than 800 parents, teachers, academics, science and technology specialists, and members of the general public to view students' presentations.

The Ottawa Regional Science Fair is organized by local volunteers, and funded by local sponsors, to create a unique learning experience for Ottawa-area students. All funds are used to cover the cost of holding the fair and sending the 11-member regional team to the Canada-Wide Fair.

## ORSF winners at the 2009 Canada-Wide Science Fair

**Alen Antoun**, Collège Catholique Samuel-Genest  
Développement d'un modèle animal de l'amblyopie anisométrique

- Honourable Mention - Health Sciences (Senior), Canadian Institutes of Health Research

**Sathya Baskaran**, Nepean High School  
*Overcoming Spinal Cord Injuries*

- Australian National Youth Science Forum Award

**Victoria-Marie Cusson**, Collège Catholique Samuel-Genest  
*La transformation écologique des déchets ménagers organiques en bioéthanol*

- Renewable Energy Award (Intermediate), Ontario Power Generation
- Silver Medallist, \$1,500 entrance scholarship, University of Western Ontario
- Honourable Mention, Environmental Innovation (Intermediate), VIA Rail Canada
- Silver Medal, Earth & Environmental Sciences (Intermediate), Petro-Canada

**Caroline Foody**, Ashbury College  
*The Medium Rare Hamburger: An E coli Sandwich?*

- Dr. Michael Smith Innovation Award (Intermediate), Youth Science Canada / Sciences jeunesse Canada

**Charlie Sobcov**, Turnbull School  
*Saving the Birds, One Window at a Time*

- Dr. Michael Smith Innovation Award (Junior), Youth Science Canada / Sciences jeunesse Canada
- Silver Medallist, \$1,500 entrance scholarship, University of Western Ontario
- Honourable Mention, Environmental Innovation (Junior), VIA Rail Canada
- Silver Medal, Earth & Environmental Sciences (Junior), Petro-Canada

**Sandro Young, Justin Li**, Lisgar Collegiate Institute and Sir Robert Borden High School  
*Wireless Power II: Characterizing Magnetically Coupled Fields*

- Petro-Canada Peer Innovation Award (Intermediate), Ontario North & East
- Silver Medallist, \$1,500 entrance scholarship, University of Western Ontario
- Silver Medal, Engineering (Intermediate), Youth Science Canada / Sciences jeunesse Canada

**Manel Zeghal, Ryan Warnock**, Queen Elizabeth Public School  
*Artificial Intelligence for a Healthier Canada*

- Honourable Mention Health Sciences (Junior), Canadian Institutes of Health Research



## 2010 ORSF Sponsorship Schedule

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Please select one of the following donation levels by circling the category.

Category (circle one)	Level of Support	Benefits
<b>BRONZE</b>	\$200 to \$1,499	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organization name listed as sponsor in ORSF program, website, and T-shirts</li> </ul>
<b>SILVER</b>	\$1,500 to \$2,399	<i>As above, plus:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One piece of promotional material distributed to participants, judges, and visitors</li> </ul>
<b>GOLD</b>	\$2,400 to \$5,999	<i>As above, plus:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organization business card or logo (maximum 2"x3½") printed in the ORSF program and T-shirts</li> <li>Logo on front page of website (<a href="http://www.orsf.ca">www.orsf.ca</a>)</li> </ul>
<b>PLATINUM</b>	\$6,000 and above	<i>As above, plus:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organization name/logo printed on ORSF program cover</li> <li>Organization logo displayed on a banner for the duration of the Fair</li> <li>Organization name used in media contact and advertising (<i>subject to sponsor's permission</i>)</li> <li>Exhibit space at Fair</li> </ul>
<b>DIAMOND</b>	\$5,000 per year for three years	<i>As above, plus:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognition at awards ceremony</li> <li>Organization logo and identification as "sustaining sponsor" on ORSF correspondence and website</li> </ul>

Please fill out this form and send it with payment and camera-ready logo by **March 8, 2010**. Logo **must be received by this deadline** to be included in any promotional materials.

Please provide us with the following information along with a copy of how you would like your company/organization name to appear in the program:

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name & Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send cheque payable to **Ottawa Regional Science Fair** and this form to:

Ottawa Regional Science Fair P.O. Box 8286, Station T CSC, Ottawa, ON K1G 3H7
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