

# <u>Please Participate as a Science Fair Judge</u> at the 2017 Westchester Science Fair (WESEF)

**When:** Saturday March 4th, 2017 8:30am – 2:30pm

Where: Sleepy Hollow High School, Sleepy Hollow, NY

**What:** Evaluate student poster presentations in symposia style, one on one, interactions while encouraging these bright and talented high school scientists to be passionate about science. Judge rubric is attached for you to preview.

### **Judging Requirements:**

- Have a minimum of 2 years related professional experience beyond receiving their B.A., B.S., or Master's degree. This would include school psychologists, social workers, registered nurses, EPA and DEA professionals.
- Have a Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent (D.O., Ed.D., D.D.S., D.V.M., etc.),

#### OR

Is a current graduate student with more than 2 years of doctoral-level research experience or who is within one year of doctoral dissertation defense.

Register online at: <a href="http://wesefreg.org/judges/">http://wesefreg.org/judges/</a>

**Questions:** Contact our Judge Coordinator, Michele Sugantino at <a href="westefjudges1@gmail.com">wesefjudges1@gmail.com</a>

Breakfast, Lunch and Thank You Gift provided for all judges.

#### **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF THE DAY:**

8:30am New Judge Registration/ Complimentary Light Breakfast

9:00am Returning Judge Registration/ Complimentary Light Breakfast Judges May View Posters until 9:15 AM

9:30am Judge Briefing

10:00am Judging Sessions Begin Complimentary Lunch Available after 12:30 PM

2:30pm Judging day ends

## Frequently Asked Questions about judging at WESEF

- Q: Is there any special training needed to be a judge?
- A: No. However, we do review the entire grading rubric and the judging process with all of the judges in the morning before WESEF begins.
- Q: How many projects will I be asked to judge?
- A: Approximately 8
- Q: How do I judge/rate/score the students?
- A: Each student is judged 5-6 times in one-on-one fashion. Judges use a scoring rubric supplied by WESEF to help guide them. Sample is attached.
- Q: Do I have to stay to help determine the winners?
- A: No but you are welcome to join us for the award ceremony that starts at 7:00 at the same location as the fair
- Q: Can I stay for part of the day, or do I have to stay the whole day?
- A: We would prefer that you stay for the whole day as we have a definite need for judges but you are welcome to stay for half of the day if you are unable to stay until 2:30. If you can only stay for half of the day, please email our judge chairperson at wesefjudges1@gmail.
- Q: Do I have to judge a project if the project is out of my knowledge area?
- A: No. After seeing the poster, you can just return the grading rubric to the judge table and ask for a different project to judge.
- Q: Do I have to judge a project if I have a connection/conflict with the school that the student comes from or if I know the student?
- A: No. After seeing the poster, you can just return the grading rubric to the judge table and ask for a different project to judge.
- Q: What prizes can the students win?
- A: Thanks to our sponsors we are able to provide nearly 50% of the participants with some form of award/prize. We award a certain percentage of the students a "place in category" award, (4th, 3rd, 2nd, 1st)

In addition, the highest scoring students are eligible to win a "Grand Prize" award. WESEF will be sending 17 students (individual and team projects) to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles, California (<a href="https://student.societyforscience.org/intel-isef">https://student.societyforscience.org/intel-isef</a>, 7 students to the International Sustainable World Project Olympiad in Houston, Texas (<a href="https://www.isweeep.org">www.isweeep.org</a>) and 9 students to the International Genius Olympiad in Oswego, New York (<a href="https://www.geniusolympiad.org">www.geniusolympiad.org</a>)

At these three international Science Fairs, the WESEF finalists compete against the science fair winners from every state and 60 countries. Our finalists have typically won awards and international recognition year after year.