



Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair

sponsored by DOFASCO

Newsletter January 2006



BASEF 46th Annual Fair
March 29 - April 1, 2006
Mohawk College

Registration time is here!

The Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair 2006 is an experience that lasts a lifetime. BASEF 2006 will be held at Mohawk College from March 29th to April 1st, 2006. All students in grades 7 to 12 who live in Hamilton, Halton, Brant, Haldimand or Norfolk are invited to show off their great ideas and creative ingenuity by registering for the fair.

Easy to Enter

Detailed here are the 10 important steps to follow when registering your project. These steps can also be found at the BASEF 2006 website.

Information about registration and the fair are updated on the website frequently, so be sure to check it out regularly.

basef.ca/2006

The organizing committee gratefully acknowledges the financial support of our new title sponsor for BASEF 2006.

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10 Easy Step-by-Step Registration Instructions

1. Connect to the BASEF 2006 homepage.
basef.ca/2006
All registration application forms for BASEF 2006 will be available online starting at noon Monday, February 6, 2006.
2. Click the registration link to begin the registration process.
3. **Print** and fill out the Rough Copy of Registration form.** This draft copy helps you make sure that you have all of the information needed for the official entry form.
4. Print and fill out the Required Scientific Review forms. Be sure to make use of the flow chart for your grade division to help you determine which forms are required for your project.
5. Fill out the Official Online Registration. **Record your registration ID and password for later use.**
6. Print the Record of Registration. Both you and your teacher should have a copy.
7. Print and fill out the Approval form. Make sure your parent or guardian and your school sponsor complete this.
8. Mail the signed Approval form and any required Scientific Review forms to BASEF 2006 to the address noted on the website, before noon, on March 1, 2006.
9. Print your To Do list. Your To Do list is a final reminder of what needs to be done for a complete registration.
10. Print and fill out the Safety Checklist. You will need this at the fair with your project. You can use your registration ID and password to modify your registration up until close of registration.

****Step 3 - Print and fill out the Rough Copy of Registration Form**

Print and fill out a rough copy of the registration form. Use of this draft form will help you make sure that you have all of the information that you need for the official entry form. Once you have completed the form, have your teacher or sponsor review it before filling out the online version (step 5). Please check for spelling, grammar and capitalization—the information that you submit will be in the Program, judges' material, on your name tag and on the Web exactly as we receive it.

Access to registration forms on the BASEF website will ONLY be available from noon February 6, 2006 to noon on March 1, 2006. There will be no exceptions permitted.



The BASEF Project

Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair

Background

- One of the largest and longest running science fairs in Canada
- For all students in grades 7-12 from Halton, Hamilton, Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk
- BASEF is a registered charity relying entirely on volunteers and sponsors

Purpose

To encourage youth in science, engineering and technology by:

- Organizing and staging an annual fair
- Offering Outreach activities to promote "Project Based Science"
- Promoting BASEF to any and all captive audiences

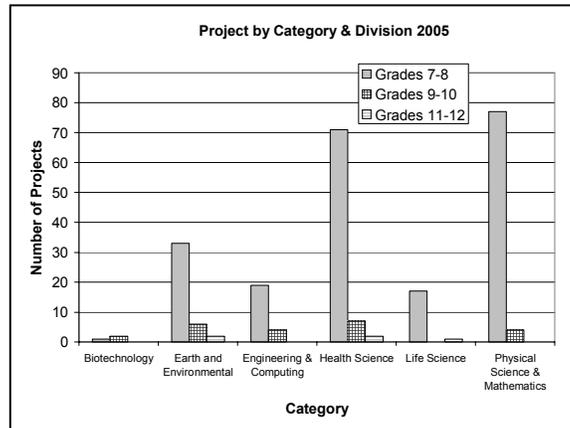
Hypothesis

- Students gain valuable academic and life skills.
- Students compete for thousands of dollars in cash, scholarships and awards including all expense paid trips to the national and international science fairs.

Materials

- 1) Dedicated teachers
- 2) Motivated students
- 3) Supportive parents
- 4) Enthusiastic volunteers
- 5) Generous sponsors

Observations



Results



BASEF students and fellow Team Canada members preparing to take on the world at ISEF 2005 in Phoenix, Arizona.



Conclusions

- 375 students from 62 schools with 246 projects
- Over \$212,000 in awards
- 24 BASEF students won Grand Prize Trip Awards
- BASEF was the #1 Regional fair team at CWSF 2005 in Vancouver, B.C.
- BASEF student was the top Canadian entry at Intel ISEF 2005 in Phoenix, Arizona
- BASEF student won Best in Fair at CWSF

Our students are going places!

Discussion

All students should be given the opportunity to participate in science fairs. Students learn invaluable academic and life skills through researching, experimenting, displaying and presenting their projects. The judging process and public viewing allow students to practice their "people" skills and gain self confidence and a sense of accomplishment for a job well done.

Get in touch with the scientist in you
www.basef.ca

Acknowledgements

BASEF is only made possible through the continuing support of our teachers, students, parents, volunteers and sponsors.

BASEF is a registered charity and volunteer driven organization with a diverse group of committee members from business, education, health sciences and industry. BASEF relies entirely on the support of our generous sponsors.

Project Display Safety Rules

Every project exhibited at BASEF must pass a thorough safety check on set up day. **There are detailed rules posted on the BASEF website that every participating student should review.** Build your display correctly the first time to avoid disappointment! Every year, entire projects and/or accompanying props are turned away, adding unnecessary stress to our students.

Basic rules include the following:

- size, including height and width of the display
- construction material of the backboard
- how papers may be displayed
- biohazards including radioisotopes, bacterial cultures, fungi, moulds
- toxic, flammable, dangerous chemicals including drugs
- allowable props on the table

Number One Violation – Home Grown Mould, Fungi, Bacteria

Growing molds on bread or culturing bacteria from toothbrushes have been popular experiments for many years. No matter how harmless the source may seem, the display of any microbiological material is prohibited. Instead, consider displaying pictures of your experiment. Alternatively, the material can be encased in a solid acrylic block (kits are available at hobby stores).

Judges are well aware of the safety rules and do not expect to see actual samples of what you managed to grow.

Number 2 Violation - The Shocking Experience

The stringent electrical equipment rules are in place to protect our students, judges and the viewing public from accidental shock. All AC equipment used in your display must have a functional **3-wire plug with a ground or be CSA approved.** Extension cords, power bars and lighting must be CSA approved. Any projects using equipment not following these rules must be disabled for display at the fair.

Number 3 Violation - Paper

BASEF complies not only with the safety rules regulated through our

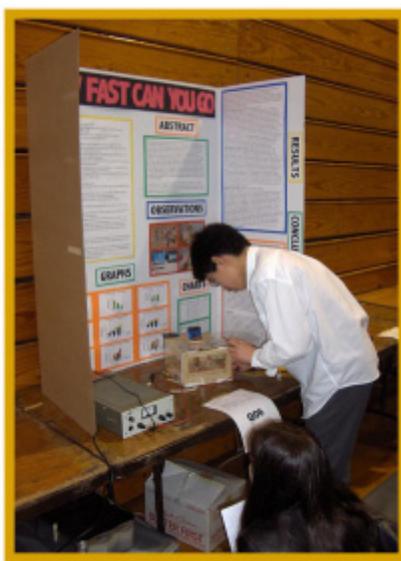
national organization but also the local fire codes of our municipality.

All display board paper must be firmly adhered to the backboard with no loose or overlapping pages. This means that you cannot staple a set of pages and attach it to the display board. The display board is meant to be a summary of your project. Complete details of your work belong in the accompanying notebook or binder.

Miscellaneous Rules for Display Props

Interesting projects often include additional components on the display table such as experimental models, photographs, equipment, prototypes etc. Ensure that there are no dangerous moving parts, that sharp edges on glass, mirrors, metal, prisms etc. are protected and that any electrical equipment meets safety guidelines.

Avoid disappointment by checking out the safety rules before you build your display and assemble the props that you want to display.



For complete information on safety requirements, visit the Student section of the BASEF 2006 website at

basef.ca/2006

Project Display Layout

The purpose of the display is to communicate a **summary** of the work and the results in an eye-catching manner.

The display material should follow a logical order from left to right on the display board and include the major components that the judges are looking for. Ensure that there are no spelling errors and that the papers are mounted neatly.

Neatness counts! *If your display was done carelessly, the judges might get the impression that your entire project was done with little attention to detail.*

The following is a basic display layout. The project title is the largest, followed by smaller subtitles. Microsoft WordArt works well for titles. The text on your display should be visible from a few feet away.

Project Title		
Background	Procedure	Conclusions
Purpose	Observations	Discussion
Hypothesis	Results	Acknowledgements

To see examples of effective and winning displays, visit the gallery of winning BASEF 2005 projects at:

<http://basef.ca/2005/results/?page=results>

For information about the BASEF philosophy of judging and how projects are scored, visit the Judges section of the BASEF 2006 website.



BASEF

BASEF is proud to acknowledge our sponsors to date for the 2006 fair.

Title: \$ 15,000+ DOFASCO

BASEF 2006 gratefully acknowledges the financial support of DOFASCO.



Our product is steel. Our strength is people.
...Our home is Hamilton.

Diamond: \$ 10,000+

The Hamilton Spectator
Microsoft Canada
Primary Fluid Systems



Primary Fluid Systems Inc.

Platinum: \$ 5,000+

Bell Canada
Interkom Creative Marketing
JNE Consulting
Mohawk College
Sheridan College



Gold: \$ 2,500+

Lifetouch



Silver: \$ 1,000+

Bruce Riddiough, CA
Halton Catholic District School Board
Halton District School Board
Hamilton Halton Construction Association
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board
Seldon Griffin Graphics
Triple Crown Enterprises



Bronze: \$ 500+

Burlington Pump
Durward Jones Barkwell & Co.
HSBC Bank
Leppert Business Systems
Optimist Club of Stoney Creek
Teachers Credit Union



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BASEF 2006 Activity Day



Activity Day is a chance for competitors to relax after the stresses of judging day, to get to know other students interested in science and technology, and to take part in some fun and educational events. This year, students will be spending the day at the Parks Canada Marine Discovery Centre at Pier 8 in Hamilton, where they will get a virtual experience of our national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas.

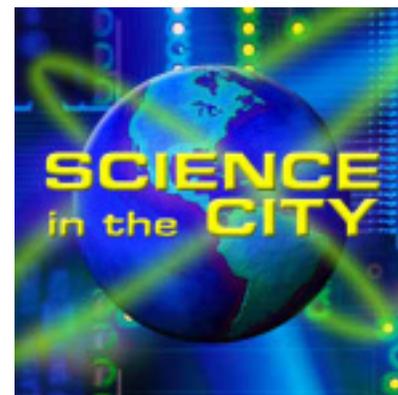
When is Activity Day? Friday, March 31, 2006 with an 8:00 am drop off and a 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm pick up time at the Mohawk College "Arnie" Student Centre. Transportation to and from the Marine Discovery Centre, and admission fees will be provided by BASEF.

How much does it cost? It is free for all science fair participants. Students must provide their own bagged lunch (no peanut or nut products, please).

Do I have to attend? No, but we strongly encourage you to come out and participate. It's a reward for all of your hard work and an opportunity to meet other students interested in science and technology.

Important Note: *Students must attend the whole day event or not at all. Students may not leave or arrive part way through the day.*

Activity Day 2006 sponsored by:



The Hamilton Spectator and McMaster University are hosting a series of free public lectures. All lectures are held in The Hamilton Spectator Auditorium, 44 Frid Street, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

Upcoming Lectures:

February 14 2006 Healthy Hamilton? Checking up on the City's Health

March 14 2006 Too much to read: using computers to cope with information overload

April 11 2006 TBA

May 9 2006 TBA

**To Register call:
905-525-9140 ext 24934
or email:
sciencecity@mcmaster.ca**

let's talk science **Science Saturdays at the Westdale Library**

Short Description: The Let's Talk Science Partnership Program is a nation-wide program where university student volunteers provide fun hands-on science activities for kids. In partnership with the Hamilton Public Library, McMaster University Partnership Program volunteers will offer a **free** Saturday morning science program for young people ages 10 - 14.

Dates: February 25, 2006

March 25, 2006

April 29, 2006

More Info:

For more information or to register call 905-546-3456.

Who want to go to the Internationals?



**Intel International Science and Engineering Fair
Indianapolis, Indiana, May 7 - 13, 2006**

We will be looking for up to 4 talented students in grades 9 to 12 to represent BASEF in Indianapolis, Indiana in May 2006. All high school BASEF entrants are eligible and the BASEF Intel ISEF team will consist of two outstanding individual project finalists and one exceptional team project.

Intel ISEF is the world's largest science competition for high school-aged students, annually attracting approximately 1200 students from more than 40 countries.



Team Canada 2005 members included BASEF students:

Christopher Balaban
Kayla Cornale
Nikola Lukenda
Patrick Martin
Natalie Raso

**Canada Wide Science Fair
Saguenay, Quebec, May 13 - 21, 2006**



On or about May 13, 2006, up to 16 BASEF students will board a plane for Quebec to compete in the Canada Wide Science Fair (CWSF). BASEF students will be joined by 400 competitors from more than 100 regional fairs across Canada and defend their title as the Top Regional Fair Team at CWSF 2004 and 2005.

All BASEF 2006 entrants are eligible to win one of these all expense paid Grand Trip Awards.

The BASEF 2006 Organizing Committee is please to welcome the return of our Honourary Co-Chairs and staunch supporters:



Regional Chair of Halton
Joyce Savoline



City of Hamilton Mayor
Larry Di Ianni

Get in touch with the scientist in you.
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Visit our website basef.ca for the most current information and project resources.

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