

The Stanley and Lucy Lopata Excellence in Creativity Award

Since 1994, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Lopata of the Lopata Research and Development Corporation have sponsored the Excellence in Creativity Award to recognize high school students who have honed their creativity, sharpened their reasoning and problem solving skills, and discovered solutions to scientifically or technically based problems.

WINNING

Each year students who demonstrate, via written proposals, the most unique, creative, and appropriate solutions to scientifically or technically based problems are recognized with award plaques and cash honorariums.

Four awardees will be selected. The first place winner will receive \$2,500. The second place winner will receive \$1,500. The third place winner will receive \$1,000, and \$1,000 will go to the fourth place winner. The cash honorarium will be given to the winners upon enrollment in the University of Missouri-St. Louis. The awards will be announced during the annual Junior Science, Engineering and Humanities Symposium to be held in March.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Students in Missouri public and private schools in grades ten, eleven and twelve are eligible to submit proposals. Proposals may be submitted either by an individual or by a team with up to four members. All team members must meet eligibility requirements, and winning teams will divide the cash award equally.

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

Proposals must provide a solution to a real scientific or technical problem, process or phenomenon. The overall project must be the unique and sole work of the individual or group of individuals submitting the proposal. Solutions must be within the natural or physical parameters as opposed to the supernatural. The information provided must stand alone on its merits and completeness. Any data or supportive information must be identified and fully referenced.

Proposals must be accompanied by the official Submission Form, and must be postmarked or registered to be delivered on or before 6:00 p.m. on February 10. Late proposals or those not precisely fitting the prescribed format cannot be accepted or considered. Only hard copies of proposals will be accepted. Electronic transmission or Facsimile transmission of proposals is not accepted.

JUDGING

A panel of judges will evaluate each proposal on its individual merit with respect to the following:

1. Creativity applied and the uniqueness of the solution (40 points)
2. The practicality and workability of the solution (20 points)
3. Demonstrated understanding of the scientific process (10 points)
4. Overall knowledge of the topic (10 points)
5. Impact on existing systems or degree of side effects of solution (10 points)
6. The significance of the problem (5 points)
7. Clarity, directness, succinctness, format and professional style of the presentation (5 points)

The decision of the judges is final. Re-submissions or re-evaluations will not be allowed.

Questions about the competition or judging criteria may be addressed to Dr. Charles R. Granger.

SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO

The Stanley and Lucy Lopata Excellence in Creativity Award
Science Education Programs
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