



# Connecticut Science & Engineering Fair

## Quinnipiac University

March 2 - 14, 2026

### Special Award Winners

*These judging results are unaudited by the fair's Database Committee. The CSEF reserves the right to correct the listings.*

**All special award winners are required to attend the awards ceremony on Saturday. Be sure to acknowledge by going to the CHECK-IN page.**

**<https://ctsciencefair.org/finalists-special-awards-check-in>**

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**Avon** Talcott Mountain Science Center Kaitlyn Roberts

5003 P7 Engineering A Durable Algae-Argonite Alkalinity System To Reduce CO2 Driven Ocean Acidification and Enhance Biological Resilience In Coastal Marine Ecosystems

**Student(s) Raji Doshi**

**Grade 7 Town Farmington**

**Bethel** Bethel High School Raymond Turek

6046 PS The Effect of Hydroxyapatite Concentration Within Dentistry Composite Resin on the Wear, Acidic Erosion, and Discoloration on a Synthetic Tooth.

**Student(s) Amanda Almeida**

**Grade 12 Town Bethel**

**Bethel** Bethel High School Ray Turek

6003 PS Fleet for Localized Atmospheric Research and Environmental Surveillance (FLARES): Autonomous drones and machine learning working for a cleaner environment.

**Student(s) Toshan Bhattacharya**

**Grade 11 Town Bethel**

**Bozrah** Fields Memorial School Joshua Fish

1003 LT The Impact of Ice Melting Substances On Unicellular Organisms In Pond Water

**Student(s) Analise Williams**

**Grade 8 Town Bozrah**

**Ella Sikorski**

**Grade 8 Town Bozrah**

**Bridgeport** Black Rock School Elizabeth Moran

5528 P8 Solar vs Battery Powered Car Performance

**Student(s) Robert Daley**

**Grade 8 Town Bridgeport**

**Bridgeport** Bridgeport Regional Aquaculture Center Holly Turner

3199 LS Impact of increasing water temperatures on strobilation rates in Aurelia aurita.

**Student(s) Calyn Fletcher**

**Grade 10 Town fairfield**

**Bridgeport** Bridgeport Regional Aquaculture Center Holly Turner

3510 LST How Light Color Influences Agar Production in Gracilalia tikvahiae.

**Student(s) Cherelle Ricketts**

**Grade 10 Town Bridgeport**

**Joshua Ball**

**Grade 11 Town Bridgeport**

**Bridgeport** Fairchild Wheeler Biotech Tara Liskov

3515 LST Testing the Efficacy of Non-Toxic Substances on the Destruction of Lanternflies and Egg Masses

**Student(s) Maxwell Egbuzie**

**Grade 12 Town Bridgeport**

**Sebastian Polanco**

**Grade 12 Town Bridgeport**

**Bridgeport** Fairchild Wheeler Biotech Marilyn Carolina

3036 LS Budgerigars' Behavioral Responses to Different Genres of Music

**Student(s) Carolyn Fox**

**Grade 12 Town Bridgeport**

**Bridgeport** Fairchild Wheeler Biotech Lucien Bouffard

3109 LS Equine Cooling Patterns: Physiological Modification

**Student(s) Carly Grimm**

**Grade 9 Town Norwalk**

# Conn. Science & Engineering Fair

## Special Award Winners

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**Bridgeport** Interdistrict Discovery Magnet School Susan Berez

2002 L7 Starch Wars

**Student(s)** Alicia Palacios **Grade** 7 **Town** Bridgeport

**Bridgeport** IT & Software Engineering High School Ricki Chiem

6510 PST How Effectively Can AI Classify Waste?

**Student(s)** Alan Brewster **Grade** 10 **Town** Milford  
Mikayla Larbi **Grade** 10 **Town** Bridgeport  
Brandon Granados Pastora **Grade** 10 **Town** Bridgeport

**Bridgeport** John Winthrop School Srilakshmi Kongani

5510 P8 Insulation Investigation

**Student(s)** Lavinya Baence **Grade** 8 **Town** Bridgeport

**Bridgeport** Multicultural Magnet School Corina Starn

4006 PT SMART CANE

**Student(s)** Erick Aquino **Grade** 8 **Town** Bridgeport  
Dhavid Caetano **Grade** 8 **Town** Bridgeport

**Bridgeport** Read School Trisha Bartholomew

5509 P8 How Does Air Flow Around Different Shape of Cars?

**Student(s)** Aaron Samaroo **Grade** 8 **Town** bridgeport

**Bridgeport** Warren Harding High School Shelton Neale

3117 LS Plants Grow in Different Soils

**Student(s)** Joseph Colon-Machado **Grade** 11 **Town** Bridgeport

**Cheshire** Cheshire High School Julie Barker

6030 PS Towards Faster Materials Simulation: GPU-Optimized Neural Networks for Interatomic Potentials

**Student(s)** Raine Ma **Grade** 11 **Town** Cheshire

**Danbury** Saint Joseph School Kathleen Spina

2513 L8 To Drink or Not To Drink: How clean is your water?

**Student(s)** Christopher Caputo **Grade** 8 **Town** danbury

**Danbury** St. Gregory the Great School Christine Fahey

2511 L8 Novel & Portable Cards For Detection of Common Food Allergens

**Student(s)** Rahil Shah **Grade** 8 **Town** Danbury

**Danbury** Westside Middle School Academy Nancy Barlow

4001 PT What desalinates water the most efficiently; Solar Distillation, Reverse Osmosis, and Boiling

**Student(s)** Joseph Brocia **Grade** 7 **Town** Danbury, CT  
Colin Guidotti **Grade** 7 **Town** Danbury  
Brian Saltzman **Grade** 7 **Town** Danbury

**Danbury** Westside Middle School Academy Nancy Barlow

4009 PT What is the Affect of Wing Design on the Speed a Model Plane Flies?

**Student(s)** Shihan Lin **Grade** 8 **Town** Danbury  
Isabella Amenta **Grade** 8 **Town** Danbury  
Ally Kay **Grade** 8 **Town** Danbury

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**Danbury** Westside Middle School Academy Nancy Barlow

1020 LT How Do Organisms Affect The Rate Off Food Decomposition?

**Student(s)** **Reina Melendez** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury  
**Sophia Cardenas** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury

**Danbury** Westside Middle School Academy Nancy Barlow

4005 PT Can You Detect Muons and Cosmic Rays Using Household Materials? How do Coronal Mass Ejections affect the number of muons and cosmic rays detected?

**Student(s)** **Sean O'Marra** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury  
**Alius Santiago-Stra** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury

**Danbury** Westside Middle School Academy Nancy Barlow

4017 PT The Effect of Phone Case Materials on EMF Radiation from an iPhone Under Various Scenarios.

**Student(s)** **Gowtham Vallinayagam** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury  
**Edward Sola** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury  
**Rafael Barreto** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury

**Danbury** Westside Middle School Academy Nancy Barlow

1013 LT How can we use phytoremediation to extract different heavy metals out of soil?

**Student(s)** **Rhea Yadav** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury  
**Aanya Popuri** **Grade 8** **Town** Danbury

**Darien** Darien High School Guy Pratt

3200 LS The effects of psychiatric service dogs on veterans with PTSD and co-occurring mental health disorders: A Meta-Analysis

**Student(s)** **Anastasia Buchesky** **Grade 12** **Town** Darien

**Darien** Darien High School David Lewis

6085 PS Functionalizing DNA Nanotechnology: Optimizing the Impact of Buffer Conditions on Chemical Ligation

**Student(s)** **Claire Chan** **Grade 12** **Town** Darien

**Darien** Darien High School David Lewis

6091 PS Post-Robbing Behavioral Shifts in Native and Invasive Bees

**Student(s)** **Stella Nehro** **Grade 12** **Town** Darien

**East Lyme** East Lyme High School Cecilia Prytko

3182 LS Baby Connect: A haptic solution for deaf parents

**Student(s)** **Sashrika Das** **Grade 10** **Town** East Lyme

**Farmington** Farmington High School Alexandra Raymunt

6520 PST Utilizing Banana Peels to Depollute Water

**Student(s)** **Aniket Menon** **Grade 10** **Town** Unionville  
**Andrew Nguyen** **Grade 10** **Town** Farmington  
**Daniel Marimekala** **Grade 10** **Town** Farmington

**Farmington** Miss Porter's School Christine Scanlon

3138 LS How Cooking Affects Antioxidant Levels in Cauliflower and Their Role in Cancer Prevention

**Student(s)** **Olivia Cheon** **Grade 11** **Town** Seoul

# Conn. Science & Engineering Fair

## Special Award Winners

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**Glastonbury** Glastonbury High School Stephen Falcigno  
6079 PS OPTIMIZATION FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS OF COMPLIANT MECHANISM REPLACEMENTS OF HYDRAULICS IN PENDULUM TUNED MASS DAMPERS  
**Student(s) Diego Aguilar** **Grade 12** **Town** South Glastonbury

**Glastonbury** Glastonbury High School Stephen Falcigno  
6035 PS Green Cellulose Extraction From Autumn Leaves For Biodegradable Packaging Films  
**Student(s) Ioana Popescu** **Grade 11** **Town** Glastonbury

**Greenwich** Brunswick School Dana Montañez  
3525 LST Linking Bacterial Contamination in Public Water Sources to Daphnia Behavior and Health  
**Student(s) Owen Bartoszek** **Grade 11** **Town** Greenwich  
**Aidan Williams** **Grade 11** **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Brunswick School Dana Montanez  
3536 LST Biochar as a Bioremediation Method to Control Microplastic Effects on Agricultural Crops  
**Student(s) Giancarlo Cuesta** **Grade 10** **Town** Stamford  
**Quinn Cunningham** **Grade 10** **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Brunswick School Dana Montanez  
3177 LS Preventing Zoonotic Parasitic Growth in Freshwater Aquaculture Using Aerogel Praziquantel Feed Additives  
**Student(s) Sawyer Sacks** **Grade 11** **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Brunswick School Dana Montanez  
6039 PS Comparative Study of Magneto-hydrodynamic Propulsion Designs for Marine Applications  
**Student(s) Jack Wendell** **Grade 11** **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Central Middle School Andrew Bramante  
2503 L8 In situ, Natural Degradation of Cyanotoxins in Water by *L. acidiphilus*, with Concurrent Stimulation of the Aquatic Ecosystem  
**Student(s) Clarissa Maldonado** **Grade 8** **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Eastern Middle School Andrew Bramante  
5515 P8 Computer Simulation for School Traffic Optimization  
**Student(s) Ivyn Chen** **Grade 8** **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Eastern Middle School Andrew Bramante  
5506 P8 OASIS: A Solar-Powered Off-Grid System for Harvesting Water from Subsurface Sand Moisture to Support Desert Vegetation Recovery  
**Student(s) Jiahao Luo** **Grade 8** **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Greenwich Country Day School Nathan Haag  
3099 LS Viability of Freshwater Mussels as a Water-Management Tool in America  
**Student(s) Cate Auerswald** **Grade 12** **Town** Cos Cob

**Greenwich** Greenwich Country Day School Nathan Haag  
6020 PS Effects of different drive-signal strategies on refresh rate and resolution of a Micro controller-driven CRT display.  
**Student(s) Oliver Davis** **Grade 11** **Town** Riverside

# Conn. Science & Engineering Fair

# Special Award Winners

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**Greenwich** Greenwich High School Andrew Bramante

3094 LS Determining how prevalence of single nucleotide polymorphisms alters HLA molecule's expression, and dictates Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis' best treatments in specific populations

**Student(s)** Tessa Addeo **Grade** 10 **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Greenwich High School Andrew Bramante

3185 LS Development of a Novel Nanoparticle Drug Delivery System using OLAH Targeting to Deliver Surfactant Protein and Prevent Neonatal Respiratory Distress Syndrome

**Student(s)** Tyler Malkin **Grade** 10 **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Greenwich High School Andrew Bramante

3125 LS Creation of PACA nanoparticles with a chitosan bilayer for effective oral delivery of a sildenafil PDE-5

**Student(s)** Neil Pendkar **Grade** 11 **Town** Old Greenwich

**Greenwich** Greenwich High School Andrew Bramante

3059 LS Discovery and Validation of Biopolymer Coatings for Nanoparticle-Loaded Silk Fibroin Sutures to Accelerate Tissue Regeneration with a Novel Multimodal Machine Learning Model

**Student(s)** Raghav Ramji **Grade** 10 **Town** Riverside

**Greenwich** Greenwich High School Andrew Bramante

6097 PS Process Optimization of Green Chemistry Pathway for Fabric-to-Fabric Recycling of Cotton

**Student(s)** Marley Wies **Grade** 12 **Town** Old Greenwich

**Greenwich** Greenwich High School Andrew Bramante

3007 LS Novel On Chip Screening Device for Ovarian Cancer with Algorithm from SVM-RFE on Serum miRNA Relative Expression Orderings

**Student(s)** Sophie Yu **Grade** 11 **Town** Riverside

**Greenwich** Sacred Heart Greenwich Joyce Reed

3203 LS Hearing Loss's Correlation to Anxiety

**Student(s)** Haley Blackwell **Grade** 12 **Town** Rye

**Greenwich** Sacred Heart Greenwich Mary Musolino

4007 PT Evaluating Biodegradable Plastics Made from Avocados, Bananas, and Mangos

**Student(s)** Lauren Davidoff **Grade** 8 **Town** Pelham  
Grace Nicholas **Grade** 8 **Town** Armonk

**Greenwich** Sacred Heart Greenwich Mary Musolino

4014 PT Purifying Water using Different Types of Graphene to Adsorb Harmful Pollutants

**Student(s)** Adriana Hassani-Sadi **Grade** 8 **Town** Old Greenwich  
Malaika Bazie **Grade** 8 **Town** White Plains

**Greenwich** Sacred Heart Greenwich Mary Musolino

4004 PT Evaluating the Effectiveness of Supplementing Simulated Lunar Soil to Promote Crop Growth for Future Lunar Missions

**Student(s)** Lily Hohensee **Grade** 8 **Town** Stamford  
Lily Chase **Grade** 8 **Town** Rye  
Paige Yantz **Grade** 8 **Town** Greenwich

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
 [Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**Greenwich** Western Middle School Andrew Bramante  
 5505 P8 Creating a Crab Trap That Uses Computer Vision To Detect and Capture the Invasive European Green Crab  
**Student(s)** Laila McQueen **Grade 8** **Town** Greenwich

**Greenwich** Western Middle School Andrew Bramante  
 5526 P8 Comparative analysis of CO2 Reduction by Common Houseplants Using an Arduino-Based Environmental Monitoring System  
**Student(s)** Victoria Shkabarnya **Grade 8** **Town** Greenwich, CT

**Hamden** Hamden Hall Country Day School Paulomi Aldo  
 5522 P8 Which shapes are the best for making the most aerodynamic car  
**Student(s)** David Esposito **Grade 8** **Town** North Haven

**Hamden** Hamden Hall Country Day School Paulomi Aldo  
 2510 L8 The Effect of Fungi on Plastic Decomposition  
**Student(s)** Emma Gammans **Grade 8** **Town** Woodbridge

**Hamden** Hamden Hall Country Day School Paulomi Aldo  
 2505 L8 The Amount of Carbon Dioxide That Nannochloropsis, Chlorella, and Chlamydomonas can Photosynthesize  
**Student(s)** Gabi Pereira **Grade 8** **Town** Hamden

**Hamden** Hamden Hall Country Day School Daniel Kemp  
 6517 PST How Does pH Affect the Corrosion Rate of Steel?  
**Student(s)** Yuxiao Yang **Grade 9** **Town** Guilford  
 Jiale Luo **Grade 9** **Town** Derby  
 Xinyi Xiao **Grade 9** **Town** Derby

**Kent** Kent School Michael Green  
 3058 LS MelodyMemo: A Novel Emotion-Aware Memory-Music Modeling and Recommendation System for Older Adults  
**Student(s)** Newton Niu **Grade 11** **Town** Stamford

**Kent** Kent School Jesse Klingebiel  
 6092 PS Modular Development of a Pneumatic Lumbar Exoskeleton for Assisting Stoop Lifting  
**Student(s)** Yu Tung Shan **Grade 10** **Town** Kent

**Mansfield** Edwin O. Smith High School Cheryl Granger  
 3528 LST Optimizing Jurkat Cell Cryopreservation Formulation for Safer T-Cell Therapy  
**Student(s)** Alice Han **Grade 11** **Town** Storrs  
 Bibhuti Marasini **Grade 11** **Town** Storrs

**Mansfield** Edwin O. Smith High School Cheryl Granger  
 3211 LS Researching the Effects Of Different Concentrations of Formaldehyde on the Presence of Different Species of Bacteria in Soil  
**Student(s)** Avery Hancock-Braun **Grade 10** **Town** Storrs

**Montville** Saint Thomas More School Yajamana Ramu  
 3129 LS Towards Climate-Smart Agriculture: Decoding PP2C Gene Functions for Abiotic Stress Resilience in Maize  
**Student(s)** Ami Rastogi **Grade 11** **Town** Monroe Township

# Conn. Science & Engineering Fair

## Special Award Winners

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**New Haven** Engineering and Science University Magnet Alyssa Anderson  
5008 P7 BiteSight: Development of a Mobile Deep Learning Application for Bug Bite Identification  
**Student(s)** Cayden Joseph **Grade** 7 **Town** West Haven

**New Haven** Engineering and Science University Magnet Alyssa Anderson  
4011 PT Which Material Erodes The Most  
**Student(s)** Jacob Werlin **Grade** 7 **Town** New haven  
Finnian Dooley **Grade** 7 **Town** New Haven

**New Haven** Hopkins School Phillip Stewart  
6040 PS Arduino-Based Active Stabilization System for Model Rockets Using IMU Feedback and Servo-Driven Fins  
**Student(s)** Aiden Gomez **Grade** 10 **Town** Orange

**New Haven** Hopkins School Leilei Shinohara  
5521 P8 Optical Fire Detection using Computer Vision  
**Student(s)** Maki Lawrence Shinohara **Grade** 8 **Town** New Haven

**Norwich** Norwich Technical High School Kaitlin McKale  
3057 LS Influence of microplastic size and density on the structure of microbial communities: Implications for soil health  
**Student(s)** Nyashia Bostick **Grade** 11 **Town** Willimantic

**Plainville** Plainville High School Michelle Bellinger  
6005 PS Improving Airplane Efficiency and Maximizing a Sustainable Angle of Attack Through Acoustic Streamlining  
**Student(s)** Raman Kasabrukhou **Grade** 10 **Town** Plainville

**Pomfret** Pomfret School Annie O'Sullivan  
6124 PS Leg exoskeletons that can help people with leg disabilities walk  
**Student(s)** Jiazhi Zhao **Grade** 10 **Town** Pomfret

**Ridgefield** Ridgefield High School Ryan Gleason  
3141 LS Prevalence of Pathogens in Asian Longhorn Ticks (Haemaphysalis Longicornis) in Bridgeport Connecticut  
**Student(s)** Sara Hill **Grade** 12 **Town** Ridgefield

**Simsbury** Westminster School Mike Van Dolah  
6513 PST Multi-Function Submersible for Microplastic Collection and Aquatic Environmental Analysis  
**Student(s)** Muqiao Zong **Grade** 10 **Town** Simsbury  
Andrew Ma **Grade** 11 **Town** Simsbury

**South Windsor** South Windsor High School April Davis  
6508 PST Green Light AI  
**Student(s)** Devdutt Bhatte **Grade** 10 **Town** South Windsor  
Jude Pohl **Grade** 10 **Town** South Windsor  
Srivashist Gaddam **Grade** 10 **Town** South Windsor

**South Windsor** South Windsor High School Danel Eitel  
6011 PS From Fumes to Fertilizer: A Dual-Stage Catalytic System Converting Livestock Methane into Carbonate for Sustainable Crop Growth  
**Student(s)** Aniron Pal **Grade** 10 **Town** South Windsor

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
 [Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**South Windsor** South Windsor High School Danel Eitel

3518 LST Cyanopanel

**Student(s)** Diva Shajith **Grade** 10 **Town** South Windsor  
 Amariah Ysabelle Luci **Grade** 10 **Town** South Windsor  
 Sahasra Natti **Grade** 10 **Town** South Windsor

**South Windsor** South Windsor High School Minatchy Visvanathan

6061 PS DOTBot: Diffusion-Aligned Chain-of-Thought Bipedal Humanoid Robot for Interpretable Real-Time Autonomous Navigation, Hazard Mitigation, and Recovery in High-Risk Built Environments

**Student(s)** Karthik Srikumar **Grade** 11 **Town** South Windsor

**Stamford** King School Victoria Schulman

6088 PS Real-Time Instance Segmentation for Curb and Path Detection in Assistive Wearables for Blind and Low-Vision Assistance

**Student(s)** Olivia Ajayi **Grade** 11 **Town** Stamford

**Stamford** King School Victoria Schulman

6072 PS Predicting Detectability of Transiting Exoplanets: A Python-based Signal-to-Noise Ratio Model

**Student(s)** Mia Jakubowsky **Grade** 11 **Town** Rye

**Stamford** King School Victoria Schulman

6083 PS A Sustainable Treatment For Heavy Metal Pollution: Adsorption and Desorption of Ni(II) Ions In Water Using DNA-Wrapped Carbon Nanotubes

**Student(s)** Bruno Reinhoefer Ribeiro **Grade** 12 **Town** Riverside

**Stamford** King School Victoria Schulman

3108 LS Assessing the Effects of Equine Grazing Muzzles on Upper Incisor Length and Dental Qualities in Ponies

**Student(s)** Marilyn Sommerville **Grade** 11 **Town** South Salem

**Stamford** Laurel Springs School Vera Ulanovskaya

6096 PS Driven By Demand: A Mixed-Integer Linear Programming Framework to Optimize the Efficiency and Quality of Bus Services in Stamford, CT

**Student(s)** Victoria Makarov **Grade** 12 **Town** Stamford

**Stonington** St. Michael School Anna-Helene Grossomanides

5518 P8 Investigating the effect of tire type on robot performance

**Student(s)** Tyler Baltrukonis **Grade** 8 **Town** Pawcatuck

**Stonington** St. Michael School Anna-Helene Grossomanides

5016 P7 Potter Hill Problem

**Student(s)** Vito Gynther **Grade** 7 **Town** Westerly

**Stonington** St. Michael School Anna-Helene Grossomanides

2507 L8 To Swim or Not To Swim

**Student(s)** Camille Thomas **Grade** 8 **Town** Gales Ferry

**Stratford** St. Mark School Andrea Borbor

5512 P8 Crash! Testing Model Cars

**Student(s)** Stella Jass **Grade** 8 **Town** Trumbull

# Conn. Science & Engineering Fair

## Special Award Winners

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**Trumbull** Trumbull Agriscience & Biotechnology Kevin Boken

6056 PS Development of a Multi-Axis Adaptive Inertia Regulation Exoskeleton System: A Counter-Rotational Gyroframe for Stabilization and Energy Efficiency

**Student(s) Johnathon Lin**

**Grade 10 Town Bridgeport**

**Wallingford** Choate Rosemary Hall Jan Cook

3111 LS Innovative Restoration of Coastal Marine Ecosystems: Phage-Based Disease Control and pH Modulation in Connecticut Waters

**Student(s) Taeyoung Kim**

**Grade 10 Town Seattle**

**Wallingford** Choate Rosemary Hall George Gu

6111 PS NeuroMirror: An Intelligent EEG-Driven Mirror Therapy System Grounded in Hebbian Theory for Post-Stroke Upper-Limb Rehabilitation

**Student(s) Sabrina Liu**

**Grade 10 Town Wallingford**

**Wallingford** Choate Rosemary Hall Talia Dell Angelo

6531 PST Harvesting Water from Air: Optimization of a Novel Solar-Powered Atmospheric Water Generator

**Student(s) Hsiao Chian Tseng**

**Grade 11 Town Bellevue**

**Hiyab Mebrahtu**

**Grade 11 Town Haverford**

**Waterbury** ACES Chase Academy Anne Pember

6022 PS Using chitin and chitin-based derivatives to remove and remediate nitrates.

**Student(s) Kathryn Thibeault**

**Grade 9 Town Waterbury**

**Watertown** The Taft School Amanda Benedict

3179 LS Investigating the Neuroprotective and Stress-Modulating Effects of Oxytocin on Human Cells under Cortisol-Induced Stress Conditions

**Student(s) Esther Lee**

**Grade 10 Town Watertown**

**Watertown** The Taft School Amanda Benedict

6070 PS A Novel Equestrian Virtual Reality-Based Coordination Rehabilitation System for Post-Stroke Motor Recovery

**Student(s) Mily Xue**

**Grade 10 Town Watertown**

**Westport** Greens Farms Academy Mathieu Freeman

6109 PS Open Alert: A Novel Alert System For School Safety

**Student(s) Benjamin Kiev**

**Grade 9 Town Westport**

**Westport** Greens Farms Academy Mathieu Freeman

6044 PS Developing a Methodology to Predict Flash Flooding in Southwestern Connecticut Using Historic Flood Events and Weather Data

**Student(s) Oliver Rohrbasser**

**Grade 12 Town Wilton**

**Westport** Greens Farms Academy Julianne Gerdes

3040 LS The Psychology of Yondr Pouches and The Impact on Student Well-being

**Student(s) Amalia Slade**

**Grade 12 Town Westport**

**Westport** Greens Farms Academy Mathieu Freeman

3016 LS A Data-Driven Evaluation of Behavioral and Dermatologic Factors in Adolescent Skincare Practices in the Context of Social Media Exposure

**Student(s) Anika Vaidheeswaran**

**Grade 11 Town Stamford**

# Conn. Science & Engineering Fair

# Special Award Winners

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

**Westport** Staples High School Amy Parent

6025 PS Evaluation the Therapeutic Potential of Curcumin in Improving Motor Neuron Health in Spinal Muscular Atrophy

**Student(s) Sofia DiLeo**

**Grade 12 Town Westport**

**Westport** Staples High School Amy Parent

3186 LS Comparing deep learning architectures with multispectral imaging for early detection of Black Cutworms on Bush Beans

**Student(s) Ezra Schwartz**

**Grade 12 Town Westport**

**Wilton** Middlebrook School Leah Pariso

4002 PT Dual Axis Automatic Solar Tracker

**Student(s) Aarya Patel**

**Grade 7 Town Wilton**

**Aaryan Patel**

**Grade 7 Town Wilton**

**Wilton** Middlebrook School Jessica Garcia

5519 P8 How Microplastics in Water Affects Cymatics

**Student(s) Jiya Praveen**

**Grade 8 Town Wilton**

**Wilton** Middlebrook School Janica Bagosy

5525 P8 Smart Plant Care: Using Automation and AI

**Student(s) Pratap Sharma**

**Grade 8 Town Wilton**

**Wilton** Wilton High School Nomita Ramchandani

6026 PS OleoFoam: A Magnetically Controlled Oleophilic Foam for Targeted Oil Absorption

**Student(s) Arav Gupta**

**Grade 10 Town Wilton**

**Wilton** Wilton High School Matthew Hoyt

6087 PS Improving Space Weather Forecasting Through Multivariate Machine Learning Analysis for SPE (Solar Particle Event) Prediction.

**Student(s) Ishanvi Jaiswal**

**Grade 11 Town Wilton**

**Windsor** Academy of Aerospace & Engineering Joshua Madore

6093 PS Optimizing the Efficiency of Solar Cells using Enhanced Cooling Techniques.

**Student(s) Palaniappan Manikandan**

**Grade 10 Town Ellington**

**Windsor** The Loomis Chaffee School Fahmeed Sheehan

6027 PS Continual Learning with Elastic Weight Consolidation for Human Tree Person Test Frameworks

**Student(s) Ria Sunwoo An**

**Grade 11 Town Windsor**

**Windsor** The Loomis Chaffee School Fahmeed Sheehan

6122 PS LISTEN – A Robotic Leak Identification System using TDNN and ENhanced Acoustic Features for Pipeline Detection

**Student(s) Jiaxuan Li**

**Grade 11 Town Cupertino**

**Windsor** The Loomis Chaffee School Fahmeed Sheehan

3019 LS Can Dead Bacteria Clean Up Our Gardens? Using EPS-Rich Biomass and Biochar to Lower Soil Lead Below 200 ppm

**Student(s) Li-An Ye**

**Grade 9 Town San Jose**

**Woodbridge** Amity Regional High School Sarah Reeves

3198 LS Developing a Predictive App for Water Quality: Modeling E. Coli Quantification Through Spatiotemporal Variables

**Student(s) Chloe Chang**

**Grade 11 Town Orange**

[SchTown] [School] [Teacher]  
[Proj#] [FCat] [Project Title]

---

**Woodbridge** Amity Regional High School Sarah Reeves

3180	LS	Determining the Accuracy of Biomarker TNF- $\alpha$ in Predicting Ketamine Treatment Outcomes for Veterans with PTSD & MDD
------	----	--

**Student(s)** Mila Mejnartowicz

**Grade** 12 **Town** Woodbridge

---

**Woodbridge** Amity Regional High School Lindsay McCarthy

6012	PS	Developing a Bio-Hybrid Luminescent Solar Concentrator Using Carbon Quantum Dots, Natural Fluorophores, and Kaolin Powder for Enhanced Solar Energy Harvesting
------	----	--

**Student(s)** Aryan Shrivastav

**Grade** 11 **Town** Orange

---