2013-2014 San Diego County Student Academic Competitions

ACADEMIC TEAMS

Academic Decathlon
Contact: Nicole Shina, 858-829-3050, nshina@sdcoe.net, www.sdcoe.net/ac
Nine member teams from the same school compete in ten different academic events: seven written tests in art, economics, language and literature, mathematics, music, social science, and science; and three communication tests in interview, prepared and impromptu speeches. The Final Decathlon event is the Super Quiz. Held Saturday, February 1, 2014 at Olympic High.

Academic League
Contact: Doug Gilmore, 858-210-2647, dgilmore@sdcoe.net, www.sdcoe.net/ai
Competition between high school teams that answer questions based on the state curriculum and current events in a timed, game-style format. Five members from each team compete at one time, buzzing in to answer questions. A moderator poses toss-up questions, and students answer immediately in a game-style format. Once a week for ten weeks. ITV Cable Channel 16 airs current Academic League matches beginning in March through the Final Championship which is aired live on ITV Cable 16 April 24, 2014.

HISTORY-SOCIAL SCIENCE

Project Citizen Portfolio Showcase
Contact: Janet Mulder, 619-588-5672, jmulder02@gmail.com, https://www.civiced.org/projects/citizen
Students choose a problem that can be solved with a public policy; interview people involved in the problem, ask for input on alternative solutions, which they then examine. They write a public policy and create an action plan. Creating a portfolio to show the steps they took, they present it to a decision making body. Classes are invited to present their portfolios to evaluators at the Portfolio Showcases held on June 6, 2014, at the History Center in Balboa Park.

History Day
Contact: Janet Mulder, 619-588-5672, jmulder02@gmail.com
Students compete individually or as a group to demonstrate deep understanding of historical events. Student work is produced in one of the following categories: Historical Paper, Exhibit, Performance, Documentary, Website. 3-2-0 Display. Competition takes place March 1, 2014 at the San Diego County Office of Education.

Junior Model United Nations (JMUN)
Contact: Anne Arthurs, 619-295-9431, saarthurs@gmail.com, www.sandum.org/Page/73
Representing country delegations, school teams research global problems and draft resolutions all in preparation for the San Diego Regional JMUN conference. There, teams plot strategy, negotiate, resolve conflicts, navigate the U.N.’s rules of procedures, and compete for individual and team delegation awards. Held May 31 and 2, 2013 at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (USJD).

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution
Contact: Janet Mulder, 619-588-5672, jmulder02@gmail.com, http://www.civiced.org/weethepeople
Students study the Constitution in a simulated congressional hearing, demonstrating understanding of their coursework. Teams compete to identify Individual and team delegation award winners. Held December 12, 2014 at Grossmont High. The high school competition is December 12, 2014 at Grossmont College.

San Diego County Mock Trial Program
Contact: Michelle Chavez, 619-321-4194 or rmcneer@sdbhs.org, https://www.sdbhs.org/index.cfm?G=MockTrial
Students are coached by attorneys on criminal court cases. Trials take place in the San Diego County Superior Courthouse with real presiding judges. Students plan and prepare to argue their case in court. Mock trial competition dates are February 20, 25, 27, March 1, 2014, held at San Diego Superior Court.

LANGUAGE ARTS

CA Assn. of Teachers of English Creative (CATE) Writing Contest
Contact: Steve Rodriguez, steve.rodriguez@twaverowschools.org
CATE sponsors an annual writing contest for students in 3rd to 12th grade. Students submit an essay, poem or piece of fiction in conjunction with this year’s prompt: “Pay it forward”. When someone does a good deed for you, you “pay it forward” by doing good for someone else in the future. Students need to submit their entries via their teachers. Limit of three student entries per teacher. The San Diego chapter of CATE will honor winning entries at an awards ceremony at the San Diego County Office of Education March 14, 2014.

San Diego Countywide Spelling Bee
Contact: Nicole Shina, 858-829-3050, nshina@sdcoe.net, www.sdcoe.net/sc, www.spellingbee.com
Seventh and eighth grade students who win their school Spelling Bee go on to compete as the best speller in the county in this one-day event held March 25, 2014, Half of Champions in Balboa Park. The winner will be awarded the title of Spelling Bee Champion, and compete in the 2014 Scripps National Spelling Bee held May 26 through June 1, 2014 near Washington, D.C.

The Rotary Four-Way Annual Speech Contest
Contact: Richard Coudalke, rcoudalke@saneder.org, www.rotary.org
Sponsored by Rotary International, the format of the speech needs to center around the Rotary motto, “The Four Way Test!”: 1) Is it the truth? 2) Is it fair to all concerned? 3) Will it build good will and better friendships? 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned? The selection process for the state rotary four way speech contest consists of multiple competitions throughout the county beginning in January and leading up to the final county competitions in April, 2014.

MATH/SCIENCES

24 Challenge Math Program
Contact: Carol Manderson, 619-444-1073, emanders@cox.net
Students compete using the 24 Challenge Single/Double Digit and Variable cards. Sponsored by the Greater San Diego Math Council and SDCCOE. Held May 23, 2014 at the San Diego County Office of Education.

Honors Math Contest
Contact: Todd Kemp, tkemp@ucsd.edu
Greatest math competition in the state. Two-part exam covers all high school mathematics topics through pre-calculus/ trigonometry. Teams consist of up to eight students. Sponsored by the Greater San Diego Math Council and UCSD. Held April 19, 2014 at UCSD.

Honors Statistics Contest
Contact: Eric Pribelius, 619-660-2284, eric.pribelius@csccd.edu or Tammi Marshall, 619-660-2284 tammi.marshall@csccd.edu
Students compete in two of three of 15 science related events. In addition, many non-competitive events go on throughout the day making for a festive atmosphere. The Math Field Day is run and organized by the participating teachers and schools. Participating schools are asked to be an event captain, co-captain, or provide a non-competitive event on the Field Day. Events Field Fair, February 7, 2014 at the San Diego County Office of Education; and event, May 10, 2014 at Lakeside Middle School.

MATHCOUNTS – San Diego Chapter
National program that promotes middle school math achievement. KIts are mailed to San Diego County schools in September. After several months of coaching, participating schools select students to compete individually or as part of a team. Chapter Competition held February 2, 2014, UCSD Warren Lecture Hall.

Senior High Math Field Day
Contact: Eric Pribelius, 619-660-2284, eric.pribelius@csccd.edu or Tammi Marshall, 619-660-2284 tammi.marshall@csccd.edu
Students compete in events involving individual and team mathematical problem solving. There are two rounds of competition, each team member competes in one event for each round. To highlight the 50th year celebration, commemorative t-shirts and lunch will be provided. Sponsored by the Greater San Diego Math Council, Cyanuma College, and CA Math Council. Held March 11, 2014 at Cyanuma College in El Cajon.

Elementary Science Field Day
Contact: Carol Eif, http://www.ucsd.edu/courses/ cxited/Elementary_Science_Feld_Day.asp
Students compete in events involving individual and team mathematical problem solving. In addition, many non-competitive events go on throughout the day making for a festive atmosphere. The Math Field Day is run and organized by the participating teachers and schools. Participating schools are asked to be an event captain, co-captain, or provide a non-competitive event on the Field Day. Events Field Day, February 7, 2014 at the San Diego County Office of Education; and event, May 10, 2014 at Lakeside Middle School.

Boatball Robotics
Contact: Greg Hover, greg Hover@rotoride.org, sdcs-robotics.org/robotics
January through March the BoatBall Educator Workshops provide team leaders and mentors with technology training and details of the game. After a build period of about seven weeks, students bring their robots to their regional tournament to compete against other teams in the current season’s game challenge. By designing, building, programming, and documenting robots, students use science, engineering, technology, math, and language arts skills in a collaborative hands-on project that reinforces their learning. Held March 9, 2014, location TBD.

California Science Fair
Contact: CalSf@ucsd.edu, http://www.ucsd.edu/courses/ cxited/California_Science_Fair.asp

California State Science Fair
Contact: CalSf@ucsd.edu, http://www.ucsd.edu/courses/ cxited/California_Science_Fair.asp

Saltwater Science Olympiad
Contact: liz@sandiegoso.org, www.sandiegoso.org/
Teams of up to 15 students compete in 23 events in each division. The events cover many areas of science and engineering. The National 50 website is www.scs.com. Division B (competition grades 6-10) held at Rancho Bernardo High School & Bernardo Heights Middle School, Saturday, Feb 8, 2014. Division C (competition grades 9-12) held at University City High School, Sunday, February 23, 2014.

Kid Wind
Contact: Dave Massay, dmassay@cox.net, http://learn.kidwind.org/
A student-oriented wind turbine design contest. Students spend time designing and constructing their own wind turbines with the goal of creating a device that is efficient, elegant and highly functional. Students must perform research to better understand the science of wind, be analytical about testing protocols, think creatively about solutions to problems, and work collaboratively to get their project completed on time. There are 18 different lessons covering a variety of concepts from energy efficiency to biologic impacts of wind development. The qualifying tournaments will be held May 9 and May 10, 2014, location TBD. Final tournament and show case will be held May 31, 2014 at the Birch Aquarium.

SeaPerch
Contact: Dave Massay, dmassay@cox.net, www.seaperch.org
An underwater robotics program that equips teachers and students with the resources they need to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). Students build the ROV from a kit comprised of low-cost, easily accessible parts, following a curriculum that teaches engineering and science concepts with a marine engineering theme. SeaPerch provides students with the opportunity to learn about robotics, engineering, science, and mathematics while building an underwater ROV as part of a science and engineering technology curriculum. Throughout the project, students will learn engineering concepts, problem solving, teamwork, and technical applications. The tournament is held April 26, 2014 at the Grossmont Community College Pool.

Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair
Contact: Contact@gssef.org, www.gssef.org
Science fair projects are screened and invited to participate in this regional fair. Multiple individual awards in different science categories; selected projects qualify for state and international science fair. GSDSEF is March 25–30, 2014 at Balboa Park Arena Center.

For general inquiries, contact: Nicole Shina, Special Programs Assistant at 858-829-3050 or nshina@sdcoe.net