FOUR LOCAL STUDENTS COMPETE IN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

Competitors won four awards at event in California


Representing the region were: Songela Chen, North Allegheny Senior High School (Wexford); Akash Levy, Taylor Allderdice High School (Squirrel Hill); Rishi Mirchandani, Fox Chapel Area Senior High School; and Suvir Mirchandani, Fox Chapel Area Senior High School. Rishi, Grade 11, and Suvir, Grade 9, are brothers.

- Akash Levy won an Honorable Mention from the American Association of Physics Teachers.
- Rishi Mirchandani won a third place grand award in mathematical sciences ($1,000) and an Honorable Mention Karl Menger Memorial Award from the American Mathematical Society. Rishi was also selected as the senior division recipient of the Carnegie Science Award, which he received at a ceremony in May in Pittsburgh.
- Suvir Mirchandani won a Web Innovator Award ($1,500) from GoDaddy.

The students were selected for the international competition based on their projects submitted at Carnegie Science Center’s Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair in March.

“Our students did extremely impressive projects, and all demonstrate a maturity and a skill and passion for science that are well beyond their years,” said Linda Ortenzo, the Science Center’s director of STEM programs. “ISEF gave them an opportunity to showcase their talents and to interact with like-minded students from around the world.”

ISEF brought together about 1,700 students from 70 nations and territories to compete for scholarships, tuition grants, internships, scientific field trips, and the grand prize: A trip to attend the Nobel Prize Ceremonies in Stockholm.
“The ISEF experience allows students to grow intellectually and personally and to receive important validation for their work from the highly accomplished professionals who judge the competition,” said Lisa Kosick, director of the Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair.

Carnegie Science Center was instrumental in the selection of Pittsburgh to host ISEF in 2012, 2015, and 2018.

Photos available upon request.

**About Carnegie Science Center**

Carnegie Science Center is dedicated to inspiring learning and curiosity by connecting science and technology with everyday life. By making science both relevant and fun, the Science Center’s goal is to increase science literacy in the region and motivate young people to seek careers in science and technology. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Science Center is Pittsburgh’s premier science exploration destination, reaching more than 700,000 people annually through its hands-on exhibits, camps, classes, and off-site education programs.

**About Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1895, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a collection of four distinctive museums dedicated to exploration through art and science: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, and The Andy Warhol Museum. Annually, the museums reach more than 1.2 million people through exhibitions, educational programs, outreach activities, and special events.

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