



VSTEMF Awards Winners, 2023

VSTEMF Special Awards

Vermont Principals Association Award

An award of \$250 to the top senior project; any area.

[Eric Chen from St. Johnsbury Academy](#)

VSTEMF Agriculture Award

The VSTEMF, in recognition of the importance of Agriculture to Vermont's economy, presents an award for the top project in any grade level conducting agricultural research. A prize of \$200 is awarded to the top project in this category.

[Gwendolyn Ambrose from Windsor Schools](#)

VSTEMF Engineering Awards

Engineering projects displaying innovation and excellent design. Three \$50 prizes awarded to students at any grade level.

[Campbell Clarke from Mater Christi School](#)

[Luke Sanders from Mater Christi School](#)

[Jack Hughes from Christ the King School Rutland](#)

Mary Hoppe Memorial Award

Mary Hoppe was Professor of Chemistry at Norwich University and was a role model for a generation of female college professors, physicians, and researchers. She was director of the VT STEM Fair for many years. The Mary Hoppe memorial award is a prize of \$100 to an excellent project by a young woman scientist in any grade level that exemplifies good use of the scientific method.

[Fartun Abdi and Charlotte O'Leary from Essex Middle School](#)

Ted Marsden Memorial Award

Ted Marsden was a passionate mathematics educator who taught mathematics at Norwich University for 40 years. In addition, he was a driving force in the Vermont Mathematics Initiative which revolutionized mathematics education and teacher training for elementary and middle school Vermont teachers. Ted excelled at finding promising young talent in a variety of venues. Professor Marsden was a judge at the Vermont State Science and Mathematics Fair for many years. He enjoyed engaging young Vermont students on topics related to mathematics and the sciences and recognizing their accomplishments. This award is the Fair's way of recognizing Ted's contribution to math and science excellence in Vermont. The Marsden award is a prize of \$100 to each member of the best middle school group project.

[Aiden Mellinger and Orion Stapleton from Essex Middle School](#)

Special Sponsored Awards

Awards from professional organizations, institutions, and businesses.

Society of Women Engineers-North Country Section

These awards recognize young women whose outstanding projects involve engineering, physics, computer science, or math.

Two projects were selected for recognition with Honor, which comes with a certificate.

Rama Al Namee from South Burlington High School and Campbell Clarke from Mater Christi School

Two projects were selected for High Honors, which comes with a certificate and a \$50 cash prize

Sylvia Brownlow from Lake Region Union High School and Ella Botten from Mater Christi School

Vermont Academy of Science and Engineering (VASE)

The VASE award is given in recognition of a student-led high school project that represents outstanding initiative and innovation in science, technology, engineering and/or mathematics.

Abigail English, St. Francis Xavier School (\$250)

Abigail Ulager, Mater Christi School (\$100)

Elias Leventhal, Champlain Valley Union High School (\$100)

New Hampshire Academy of Science

The NHAS supports students in VT and NH to perform original research in an advanced research lab near Dartmouth College.

Full Scholarships to NHAS Applied Scientific Research:

Rowan Gregory, Missisquoi Valley U.H.S.

Sullei Martaniuk, St. Francis Xavier

Amelia Partlow, Missisquoi Valley U.H.S.

Amelia Favreau, Missisquoi Valley U.H.S.

Dolma Sherpa, St. Johnsbury Academy

Sylvia Brownlow, Lakes Region U.H.S.

ISEF Affiliated Awards

Lemelson Early Inventor Prize

An award for the top inventor among the 6th-8th grade students competing at the fair. This prize comes with a \$100 prize and a certificate.

Krish Dahal from Mater Christi School.

ThermoFisher Junior Innovators Challenge (JIC)

The nation's premier STEM research competition for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. These students represent the top 10% of projects in this group. Winners can apply to compete in the JIC.

Abigail English from St. Francis Xavier School

Holden Blair from St. Francis Xavier School

Whitney Butnor from Mater Christi School

Will Cunningham from Mater Christi School

Abigail Ulager from Mater Christi School

Regeneron Biomedical Science Award

The Regeneron Biomedical Science Award, sponsored by Regeneron, is a \$375 award and a certificate to an exceptional student scientist who not only demonstrates an impressive command of biomedical science and research but also embodies Regeneron's core values and behaviors.

Hammad Ali from South Burlington High School

ISEF Affiliated Awards from Professional Societies

American Psychological Association

A certificate and one-year student membership for a project demonstrating outstanding research in psychological science under the category of behavioral and social sciences or any category related to psychology.

Rowan Gregory from Missisquoi Valley Union High School.

U.S. Metric Association

A certificate and one-year membership to the individual project with the best use of the SI (system international-metric) system of measurement.

Abigail Ulager from Mater Christi School

Ricoh USA, Inc.

Ricoh Sustainable Development Award (RSDA) Certificate, to recognize student(s), whose outstanding project addresses social and environmental challenges and a meaningful solution for a more sustainable future.

Sylvia Brownlow from Lake Region Union High School.

Yale Science and Engineering Association

Awards a certificate to the top individual project in computer science, engineering, physics, or chemistry from an 11th grade student.

Elias Leventhal from Champlain Valley Union High School.

Association for Women Geoscientists

Award Certificate to female students whose projects exemplify high standards of innovativeness and scientific excellence in the geosciences.

Jasmine Engle from St. Johnsbury Academy.

Society for In Vitro Biology

Certificate and a one-year membership for the best 11th grade project in the area of plant or animal in vitro biology or tissue culture.

Dolma Sherpa from St. Johnsbury Academy

Stockholm Junior Water Prize

Awarded to the top projects which are aimed at enhancing the quality of life through the improvement of water quality, water resource management, or water and wastewater treatment. Each recipient receives a certificate and the chance to enter the state competition by registering online.

Rama Al Namee from South Burlington High School

Elizabeth Nahstoll and Wynne Adamson South Burlington High School

Jasmine Engle from St. Johnsbury Academy.

National Geographic Affiliated Fair Award

A \$100 prize and certificate to a project that is seeking solutions to Earth's most pressing challenges.

Jasmine Engle from St. Johnsbury Academy

ISEF Affiliated U.S. Government Awards

NASA Earth Systems Science Award

Given to the top individual project that best demonstrates insight into Earth's interconnected systems. Certificate and invitation to a webinar with a NASA scientist.

Elizabeth Nahstoll and Wynne Adamson from South Burlington High School.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

A letter of congratulations and a certificate to the top individual project related to the "pulse of the planet."

Jasmine Engle from St. Johnsbury Academy.

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

A certificate, letter, social media toolkit and webinar with USAID's Chief Scientist. To recognize an exceptional individual student or team project that has the potential to make an impact on addressing an international development challenge.

Amelia Favreau from Missisquoi Valley Union High School.

Office of Naval Research: U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps

Awards letters of congratulations, certificates, and medallions to the top projects in any area in grades 6 to 8 and grades 9-12.

Grades 6 to 8

Jacob Jepsen from Christ the King School Rutland

Grades 9-12

Rama Al Namee from South Burlington High School

US Air Force and Air Force Research Laboratory

Four award packages for the best projects in any area, including a sling pack, power bank, flash drive, usb car charger, and a certificate.

Amelia Partlow from Missisquoi Valley Union High School

Sylvia Brownlow from Lake Region Union High School

Eric Chen from St. Johnsbury Academy

Ava Massoni from St. Johnsbury Academy

2023 VSTEMF SILVER AND GOLD MEDALISTS

VSTEMF Gold Medalists

Recognizing the highest ranked 10% projects in any grade level

Elias Leventhal from Champlain Valley Union High School
Rama AL Namee from South Burlington High School
Abigail English from St. Francis Xavier School
Dolma Sherpa from St. Johnsbury Academy
Holden Blair from St. Francis Xavier School

VSTEMF Silver Medalists

Recognizing projects ranked in the top 10% to 30% in any grade level

Whitney Butnor from Mater Christi School
Sylvia Brownlow from Lake Region Union High School
Fartun Abdi from Essex Middle School
Charlotte O'Leary from Essex Middle School
Amelia Partlow from Missisquoi Valley Union High School
Will Cunningham from Mater Christi School
Abigail Ulager from Mater Christi School
Gwendolyn Ambrose from Windsor Schools
Ava Massoni from St. Johnsbury Academy
Ernest Hodgdon from Windsor Schools

International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) Finalist

The Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) is the world's largest international pre-college science competition. Each year, millions of students worldwide compete in science fairs, with winners going on to participate in more than almost 400 Society-affiliated fairs. The top winners at those fairs earn the opportunity to compete at Regeneron ISEF. These top young scientific minds will come together to showcase their talent on an international stage, be judged by doctoral-level scientists and compete for nearly \$5 million in prizes and scholarships.

Elias Leventhal from Champlain Valley Union High School.