



Georgia Junior Science & Humanities Symposium

February 28 - March 2, 2021

Contact Information

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JSHS Judging

THE JUDGING PROCESS

At the Georgia Junior Science & Humanities Symposium (GJSHS), the first round of judging occurs when the students' research papers are reviewed by a team of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics professionals and researchers in the field. Selected students are invited to deliver oral presentations of their research at GJSHS February 28 - March 2, 2021. These presentations will represent the finest efforts of high school students in the state toward either original laboratory research, field research, or applied research. Following judging of the oral presentations on Monday, March 1, the judging team will deliberate to select approximately ten students for the finalist presentations on Tuesday, March 2. From the ten finalists, five student delegates will be selected to advance to the National JSHS. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finalists will receive \$2,000, \$1,500, and \$1,000 scholarships, respectively.

During oral presentations, judges are permitted a questioning period during which the judging team may ask questions about the students' paper, research process, or presentation. These questions are intended to aid judges by clarifying the student's depth of understanding, the amount of work and level of effort the student put in to the project, and the individual contributions to the research problem.

At the National Junior Science & Humanities Symposium, student research presentations will be organized in concurrent sessions by discipline. Military-sponsored scholarships and other awards will be made to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finalists from each of the final sessions.

In the evaluation of the presentations, judges are reminded that a key element of JSHS is the intellectual development of the individual student as an experimenter and researcher. The student presentation should clearly demonstrate in its quality and content that it is an appropriate example for the major objectives of the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force Research Offices' National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Regional and national judges evaluate the research papers and presentations using the criteria below, which are used as the basis for discussion among judging team members for the selection of students to advance to subsequent rounds of competition:

1. Statement and identification of **research problem**
2. Scientific or engineering **thought; creativity and originality**
3. Research or engineering **design, procedures, results**
4. **Discussion/conclusions**
5. Skill in **communicating the research results**; oral presentation and written reports
6. Acknowledgement of **sources and major assistance received**

A more detailed explanation of each of these criteria areas is available at www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/gjshs ("Paper & Presentation Criteria").

THE GJSHS JUDGING TEAM

The GJSHS judging team includes individuals who have significant graduate-level education and experience in the general fields of research that are represented by the GJSHS student presenters. Although specialized experience in each student's field of research at the GJSHS is typically represented among the judges, it is not guaranteed given the submitted paper topics and available judges in any given year. Therefore, student presenters are reminded of their responsibility to communicate their results so that they may be understood by both the non-specialized audience and by the judges. Judges are also selected for their interest in encouraging the students and in the future development in the science, engineering, or mathematics fields.

The GJSHS Office, National Science Teachers Association, and the Judging Panel recognize the enormous effort that students undertake in conducting their research. Therefore, our objective is to ensure an equitable competition by selecting qualified judges and by communicating the rules of competition to both students and judges. We realize that in any competition of this nature, differences of opinion about the judges' interpretations may occur. **It is the policy of the sponsors of the Georgia JSHS (e.g. the University of Georgia as well as the Army, Navy, and Air Force) to support the interpretations and final decisions of the judges' panel.**



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