

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOP SCIENCE PROJECTS BY NEBRASKA STUDENTS

(Lincoln, April 19, 2018)—The Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences (NJAS) held the annual state science and engineering fair Thursday at Nebraska Wesleyan University's Weary Center. Randy Lienemann, NJAS President, said a total of 65 projects by 73 students from 40 Nebraska schools qualified for NJAS through six regional fairs held earlier this spring. Students competed in two divisions: Grades 6-8 in the Junior Division; Grades 9-12 in the Senior Division. Judges from the Nebraska Academy of Sciences nominated ten Senior Division students to advance to the American Junior Academy of Sciences Conference next February in Washington, DC. While there, students will present their research to scientists and peers from across the country, tour area STEM-related businesses and academic facilities, attend sessions at the AAAS Annual Conference, and have their research published by AAAS. The Top 10 Senior Projects were:

- Jasmine Galvin, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School
- Sydnie Reeves, Central City High School
- Daniel Stara, David City Aquinas High School
- Hanna Olson, Omaha Zoo Academy
- Morgan Baker, Adams Central High School
- Amirtha Arun, Omaha Marian High School
- Bria Gilmore & Christina Gilmore, Omaha Central High School
- Levi Woodward, Allen Consolidated Schools
- Anjali Pullabhotla, Millard North High School

Reeves, Arun, Woodward and Stara have previously presented at AJAS based on earlier science research projects.

Top 10 Junior Projects were:

- Daniel Bashtovoi, Sidney Middle School
- Elaina McHargue, Central City Middle School
- David Johnson, Central City Middle School
- Bronson Long, Gothenburg Middle School
- Courtney Brink, Wayne Community Schools
- Maiah Davis, Wayne Community Schools
- Jenna Cecrle, Adams Central
- Carson Miller, Pender Public Schools
- Alixis Bodlak, Pender Public Schools
- Hope Lowe, Omaha McMillan Magnet Center

Twenty businesses and educational institutions provided additional awards including books, medallions, cash prizes and scholarships.

For four decades, NJAS has sponsored the state science and engineering fair. NJAS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that seeks to stimulate science education and to encourage young people to become involved in science. As an affiliate of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences, all student participants receive a one-year membership to the Nebraska Academy of Sciences. For more information about NJAS, visit <http://www.nebraskajunioracademyofsciences.org>, @NebJrAcadSci on Twitter, or Randy Lienemann by email at rlienema@gmail.com or by phone (308) 470-1105. Photos of Top 10 awardees are posted on Twitter @NebJrAcadSci and #NJAS18.