



Michigan Science Olympiad State Tournament on April 30 at MSU campus

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For Immediate Release

EAST LANSING, Mich. – The State Tournament of the Michigan Science Olympiad will take place on Saturday, April 30, 2016 on the campus of Michigan State University.

Students will participate in 48 competitive events held in various locations on the MSU campus, among them: cell biology, experimental design, chemistry, geologic mapping, wind power, astronomy, hydrogeology, anatomy and physiology, fossils, meteorology, fossils, bridge building, robotics, and bottle rockets.

The day concludes with the Awards Ceremony, when scores are announced and medals are awarded. Trophies are presented to the top six overall winning teams, and plaques are presented to teams placing seven through twelve. Honors are also awarded to the most improved team and to the highest scoring new participating team in each division.

Approximately 2,500 students and their families, coaches, and volunteers attend the State Tournament, held each year on MSU's campus since 1990.

“Every student is a winner just by being here because of the knowledge gained through preparation and participation,” said Regina Zibuck, Michigan Science Olympiad President and associate professor in the Department of Chemistry at Wayne State University.

This year marks the 34th anniversary of the Michigan Science Olympiad, part of an international event that is one of the premier science competitions for middle school and high school youth across the United States. Aimed at increasing student interest in

science and recognizing outstanding achievement in science education by students and teachers, Science Olympiad tournaments are rigorous academic competitions that consist of a series of team events for which students and their coaches and volunteers prepare during the entire year. The blend of engineering, knowledge, problem solving, technology, and process skills makes Science Olympiad unique in the world of science competition. In Michigan, participation has increased from 600 students in the first event thirty-four years ago to over two million currently.

Michigan continues to be one of the largest states in the nation for participation in Science Olympiad.

The Michigan Science Olympiad State Tournament is jointly sponsored by the Office of the Associate Provost for University Outreach and Engagement at Michigan State University and the Dart Foundation. The Verizon Foundation is also a sponsor.

The top two overall tournament winners in each division, with runner-up teams from each division, will compete in the National Science Olympiad Tournament at the University of Wisconsin-Stout on May 18-21.

Michigan Science Olympiad is an affiliate of the National Science Olympiad program and administers the program for the state of Michigan, registering teams serving approximately 8,000 middle and high school students. MSU provides support for, and monitors, the quality of each of Michigan's 15 regional programs and offers training workshops and resources for team coaches.

Learn more about the Science Olympiad State Tournament at <http://scienceolympiad.msu.edu/>, or Michigan Science Olympiad at <http://mi-so.org/>.

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