



2012 Michigan Science Olympiad State Tournament at Michigan State University on April 28

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For Immediate Release

EAST LANSING, Mich. –The State Tournament of the Michigan Science Olympiad will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

More than 450 high school and middle school teams competed at regional competitions during February and March, resulting in 96 teams selected to compete at the state tournament. Students will participate in 46 competitive events held in various locations on the MSU campus. Forensics, gravity, remote sensing, aquifers, quantitative data capture, bottle rockets, food science, robotics, towers, forestry, astronomy, and experimental design are among the broad range of scientific topics that students address during the competitive challenges.

This year marks the 30th 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. In Michigan, participation has increased from 600 students in the first event thirty years ago to over two million currently.

State Champions and runner-up teams from each division will compete in the National Science Olympiad Tournament at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, May 18-19, 2012.

“We are honored to host the Michigan Science Olympiad State Tournament, made possible by generous support from the Dart Foundation, and we are working to make this another significant experience for the nearly 3,000 participants involved,” says Hiram E. Fitzgerald, Associate Provost for University Outreach and Engagement.

“These student scientists, along with their coaches, teachers, parents, and volunteers, represent a strong dedication to scientific concepts, process skills, and applications, and (continued....)

Michigan State University welcomes the curiosity, tenacious intellect, and contagious enthusiasm they bring for this competition. This is a well-designed program that is preparing future leaders to participate in a competitive, global economy that needs skills in science, technology, engineering, and math for 21st century jobs.”

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.

Learn more about Science Olympiad at <http://soinc.org/>.

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Michigan State University has been advancing knowledge and transforming lives through innovative teaching, research and outreach for more than 150 years. MSU is known internationally as a major public university with global reach and extraordinary impact. Its 17 degree-granting colleges attract scholars worldwide who are interested in combining education with practical problem solving.

Media Advisory

EVENT: 30th Michigan Science Olympiad State Tournament

WHO: 96 middle school and high school teams across Michigan

**WHEN: Saturday, April 28, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**WHERE: Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan**

**MEDIA
CHECK IN: MSU Auditorium**

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FURTHER INFO: Awards Ceremony 6:30-8:30 p.m., MSU Auditorium