



**JUNIOR SCIENCE AND  
HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM  
CHICAGO REGION**

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Dear Colleague:

It is with great enthusiasm that we invite your students to participate in the 37th annual Chicago Region *Junior Science and Humanities Symposium* (JSHS). This event is sponsored by the U.S. Army/Navy/Air Force and Loyola University Chicago to promote research and experimentation in the sciences, mathematics, engineering and technology (STEM) at the high school level.

Students will present their research in a 12 minute talk on **Saturday, March 31, 2012**. The top three students selected by a panel of judges will receive an all-expense paid trip to the National JSHS meeting in Bethesda, MD on May 2 - 6, 2012. The top two student presenters at the Chicago regional competition will compete at the National meeting and will be eligible to attend the International Youth Science Forum (IYSF) in London in the summer of 2012. In addition, the regional winner will receive a \$2,000 scholarship award to the college or university of his/her choice and his/her sponsoring teacher will receive a \$500 award toward the purchase of equipment or books in the teacher's field. The second place finisher at the regional will receive a \$1500 award and the third place finisher will receive a \$1000 award. At the national competition (pending final approval), the seven presenters that finish first in their sections will receive an additional \$12,000, second place finishers will receive an additional \$8,000 and third place finishers an additional \$4,000. In the last 10 years the Chicago Region has produced three third place winners at Nationals, 2 second place winners and 4 first place winners, including David Geisler of Evanston Township in 2000, Debarshi Mustafi of Kenwood Academy in 2002, Seth Flaxman of Evanston Township in 2004 and Marissa Suchyta of University of Chicago Laboratory Schools in 2010. Chicago area high school student-scientists have represented the region quite well.

- < We are making every effort this year to help students with their research from the outset. Loyola faculty from several departments will be available for "E-mentoring." Students who have questions about their research can contact me through the JSHS office and I will put them in contact with an appropriate faculty mentor who can provide technical expertise and advice.
- < We now have two DVDs that will give you and your students a better idea of what JSHS is all about available for viewing in your classroom. The 20-minute DVD documents the JSHS Symposium at Loyola University Chicago, and the 13-minute DVD documents the National Symposium and shows your students what presenting at JSHS is like from the student's point of view. A link to the videos can be found on our website, <http://www.luc.edu/biology/jshs.shtml>. If you are interested obtaining a copy of either video, please contact Lillian Hardison at (773) 508-2182.

We also ask you to encourage students who are not ready to give a presentation to take part in the Symposium. You and your students will have an opportunity to meet peers, to discuss careers in science with active research scientists, and take part in a "real-life" scientific meeting.

**The deadline to submit papers is February 3, 2012.** If not selected to present, students' papers will be return with feedback and constructive comments from the reviewer. We especially encourage these students to attend the Symposium so they may discuss with peers and professors the weaknesses and problems of their research, to aid them as developing scientists and to help them pursue research suitable for competition.

If you have any questions about JSHS please feel free to call me or my assistant, Lillian Hardison at (773) 508-2182 or email her at [ljung@luc.edu](mailto:ljung@luc.edu) or you can check out our website: <http://www.luc.edu/biology/jshs.shtml>

**Please pass this document on to other interested teachers in the sciences and humanities. You have the only copy sent to your school.**

Sincerely,

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**IF YOU HAVE STUDENTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN SCIENCE, THE *JUNIOR SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM* IS A GREAT WAY TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THEM.**