The U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force sponsored Junior Science & Humanities Symposia (JSHS)
Program Objectives

To promote research and experimentation in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering at the high school level.

To recognize the significance of research in human affairs, and the importance of humane and ethical principles in the application of research results.

To search out talented youth and their teachers, recognize their accomplishments at symposia and encourage their continued interest and participation in the sciences, mathematics and engineering.

To expand the horizons of research-oriented students by exposing them to opportunities in the academic, industrial and governmental communities.

To increase the number of future adults capable of conducting research and development.

Participants in the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium

The idea of a JSHS was conceived by the Commanding Officer of the Office of Ordinance Research, predecessor of the U.S. Army/Navy/Air Force of Research Office. The program has grown to encompass 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the DOD Dependent Schools of Europe and the Pacific.

Each regional symposium is under the directorship of an established scientist, engineer or science educator. At the regional symposia, seven outstanding students and the director from each regional symposium are invited to attend the National JSHS held, either at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, or at another institution of higher learning.

Finalists will be selected from the Student Paper Competition entrants. These students will be given an opportunity to present their work at one of the sessions during the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium. This will enable them to share their research and knowledge with their peers and teachers, gain recognition for their work, and stimulate them to continue to develop their research. Papers to be presented at the Symposium will be selected by the Paper Review Committee prior to the program.

At the regional symposium, 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 JSHS, one paper from each regional symposium is presented. From these student speakers, seven are selected to attend the London International Youth Science Fortnight. This Fortnight is held at the University of London in late July and has in attendance approximately 400 students from 30 nations.