

Big ideas. Infinite possibilities.

March 31, 2007

For Immediate Release

Over \$162,000 in cash, prizes and scholarships was awarded to student participants in the 47th Annual 2007 Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair on Saturday, March 31, 2007.

More than 400 students from grades 7 – 12 in Hamilton, Halton, Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk spent months preparing over 283 amazing science and engineering projects. More than half of the students received Merit or Special Awards. **All** student participants were rewarded for their efforts with a gift bag that included a BASEF tee shirt, Sympatico music download coupons and the opportunity to attend the all expenses paid Activity Day morning event at McMaster University.

Each of the 130 Gold, Silver or Bronze medalists received a \$500 entrance scholarship to be redeemed upon acceptance at either or Mohawk College or the Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning.

Twenty of the top winners of the Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair were awarded all expense paid Grand Trip Awards to compete at either the Canada Wide Science Fair (CWSF) in Truro, Nova Scotia (May 13-20) or the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (IISEF) in Albuquerque, New Mexico, (May 12-20).

Aaron Hakim, a grade 10 student from Appleby College, won the BASEF Best in Fair Pinnacle Award for the second consecutive year. Aaron's project explored gene expression changes in Parkinson's disease. Aaron will be travelling to compete at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (IISEF) in Albuquerque, New Mexico in May.

Romita Sur, a grade 9 student at Hillfield Strathallan College won the BASEF 2nd place Pinnacle Award and will be traveling to IISEF as well. The topic of Romita's project was photodynamic therapy.

Tobias Williams, a grade 8 student from Dundas District won the 3rd place Pinnacle Award and the Roy Middleton Award for the top Junior Project. Tobias is advancing to compete at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Truro, Nova Scotia in May.

The future of our communities will be built on science, engineering and technology.

There are few things that inspire more confidence in our future than listening to these enthusiastic young scientists discussing their research and results. The diverse project topics included health sciences, earth and environmental, renewable energy applications, robotics and engineering to name a few. Our top students have spent hundreds of hours on their projects and we expect them to continue their successes at the national and international fairs in May.

BASEF is one of the oldest and longest, continuously running regional science fairs in the country and offers the largest prize purse. BASEF is a registered charity, relying entirely on volunteers and sponsors. Thanks to their support, BASEF 2007 was a tremendous success.

For further information contact: Sandy Walker, BASEF 2007 via email:

sandy.w@sympatico.ca