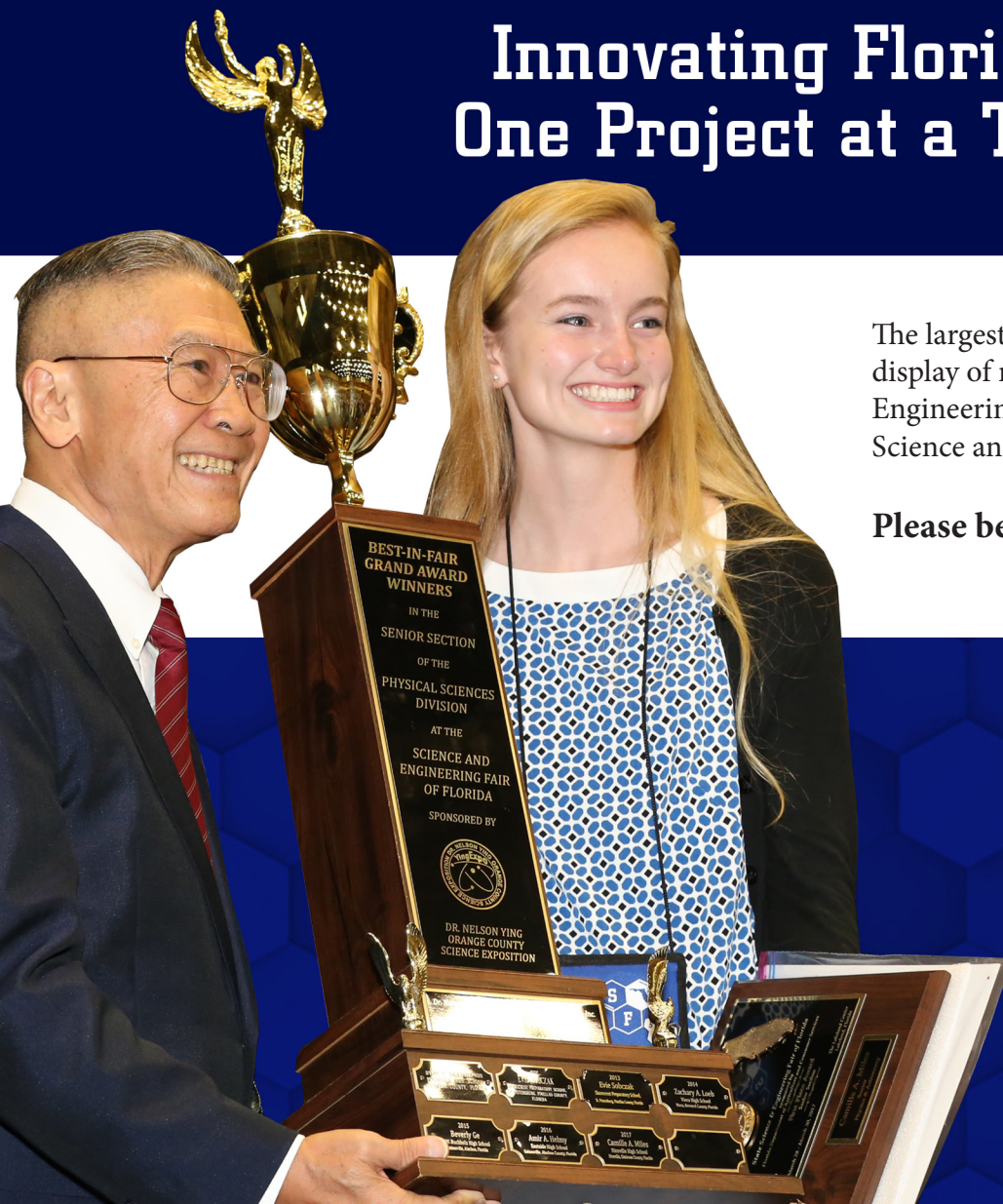




Innovating Florida One Project at a Time

The largest Middle and High School student-selected display of research projects in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in the State - The State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida.

Please be a part of our promising future



About the Fair

Our Mission

The State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida is a three-day display of science project exhibits prepared by aspiring scientists and engineers in grades six through twelve public, private, and home schools. More than 900 Finalists who have distinguished themselves at Regional Science Fairs in Florida

The main objective of the SSEF are to:

- Recognize scientific talent in young people;
- Introduce students to organized research;
- Provide teachers a forum for the exchange of ideas;
- Focus attention on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)
- Develop student, teacher, and public interest in STEM research

During the event, students have the opportunity to share their ideas with one another, increase personal development in scientific and technological areas, gain self-confidence in problem-solving skills, and participate in educational field trips and tours of local areas of interest.



Our Stats:

Attendees:

2,000+ inclusive of middle school to high school age students and their parents

Reach:

- 120,000+ Impressions on social media pages
- 20,000+ Unique user interactions on facebook pages
- 3,000+ Impressions via email marketing as the fair approaches
- 50,000+ Website page views yearly
- 10,000+ Unique users on website

Please visit SSEFFlorida.com for more information about the fair as well as images and videos recapping our events.

Benefits of HB 2373



State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida - STEM Initiative

- A diversified Florida workforce will depend on employees who are highly skilled in STEM experimental research.
- Exposure to STEM experimental research at pre-collegiate grades provides students with opportunities to view themselves as scientists and engineers, better preparing them to meet the challenges of post-graduation training and STEM-related employment.
- The SSEF of Florida, a showcase of middle and high school students' STEM experimental research, has been conducted for 62 continuous years by the Florida Foundation for Future Scientists, Inc a 501(c)3.
- The SSEF is a model public/private partnership that combines state funding for operations and corporate/private support for rewards and recognition
- The SSEF is a year-long volunteer effort involving more than 400 professionals providing support through teacher training, judging, site management, scientific, safety and ethics review
- More than 1.2 million dollars in scholarship nominations to Florida colleges and universities are offered to students at the SSEF of Florida
- More than \$46,000 in special rewards and recognitions are awarded to SSEF finalists
- The SSEF-STEM initiative includes digital resources available to public, private, and home schooled middle and high school students who participate in affiliated regional science and engineering fairs
- Florida students advancing to The Broadcom MASTERS national event and to the International Science and Engineering Fair consistently bring recognition to the State of Florida by ranking within the top three states for winning the most awards each year
- Participating in the SSEF of Florida serves as motivation for many young, aspiring STEM students; similar to student athletes “going to state” in their areas of expertise.
- SSEF supported STEM Experimental Research includes students' individual choices of STEM topics, “hands-on” learning, application of quantitative skills, critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration that encompass authentic and rigorous learning experiences.
- Members of the Florida Foundation for Future Scientists are ready and willing to continue our efforts beyond March 2018, with this requested and critical state support of the SSEF of Florida!



The State Science and Engineering Fair (SSEF) Funding Dilemma

How We Arrived at This Point



- The Florida Foundation for Future Scientists, Inc. (FFFS) is an organization of volunteers established by the Florida Legislature in 1957. Our expertise lies in encouraging and supporting Pre-Collegiate experimental research in STEM-related fields. We have conducted the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida continuously for 62 years. We have inadequate expertise in private and corporate fundraising, but we realize our need to develop these skills.
- Direct Legislative funding via an Florida Department of Education grant, began in the 1970's (\$20,000) to present (\$73,032)
- Our needs/expenses in providing annual training workshops for teachers and regional fair directors, the actual SSEF itself, and the expenses in accompanying the 85+ Florida students to the International Science and Engineering Fair have increased.
- Historically, various regions providing facility and related site expenses hosted the SSEF. In 2009, the facility and site expenses were assumed by the FFFS, since school districts were adversely impacted by the deep recession.
- The database program established by the FFFS through the 1990s and the early 2000s is no longer supported by software (Microsoft Access) and since 2014 we have been forced to utilize consultants and contractors to develop, host, and manage the database used for on-site management, judging, program books, student awards, etc., etc.
- Direct agency funding assistance from FDACS has varied annually and unpredictably, from a low of \$10,000 to \$250,000 over the last four years. FDACS funding was totally eliminated at the close of the Special Legislative Session in June 2017.

Website: SSEFFlorida.com