

Crucial Dates & Information for the 2018 Golden Gate STEM Fair

Important Dates

- February 1 Deadline for receipt of initial papers by the Scientific Review Committee for projects involving invertebrate or vertebrate animals, human subjects, recombinant DNA, tissue, pathogenic agents, or controlled substances. These papers should be filed even though students may not yet know if they are participating in GGSF and even if their projects only involve observation or surveys. The Scientific Review Committee would prefer to screen extra projects instead of disqualifying projects that have not filed papers. See Item 6 on back of this sheet.
- March 5 Deadline for online registration for all students who are participating in the fair. Exceptions to this include students whose local science fair occurred after this date. In this case, prior arrangements should be made by the local fair personnel with GGSF.
- March 19 Monday: Projects may be installed from 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Students must report to the registration desk to receive final registration materials and to have their exhibiting space assigned. All project installations must be complete by 9:00 pm. Projects may be installed by someone other than the registered student exhibitor. Parents, teachers, friends, or siblings may do the installation. The Golden Gate STEM Fair takes place at the San Francisco County Fair Building at 9th and Lincoln in Golden Gate Park. A Google map search of "San Francisco County Fair Building" will display the location.
- March 20 Tuesday: The Science Fair is open to the public from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- March 21 Wednesday: Projects will be judged from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. All students should plan on being at their projects from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Yes, that might mean they miss school for the afternoon. They should check in at the registration desk upon arrival. Students being considered for a 1st or 2nd place award will be scheduled for an interview and will find their names posted at the registration desk. Parents who are in attendance can make an extremely important contribution to the experiences of students at the fair if they visit with exhibitors and talk to them about their projects.
- Sometime before 4:00 pm on Wednesday, March 21, all award winners will be notified. Those receiving 1st or 2nd place awards will have been interviewed. Those students receiving 3rd place or special awards will find their names on a list at the registration desk. 4th place ribbons will have been placed on the appropriate projects by this time. Exhibitors should take home log books and all loose and/or valuable equipment or materials before they leave at the end of the day. Ribbons should be left in place until the project is removed.
- March 22 Thursday: Projects may be viewed by the public on this date from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm; however, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards will not yet be posted.
- March 22 Thursday evening: The awards ceremony will be held at 7:00 pm. Projects must be removed after the awards ceremony is completed; however, they may not be removed until after the ceremony. The exhibit area will be closed until that time. Unclaimed projects may have to be destroyed if storage is not available.

More important information on back

More Important Information for the Golden Gate STEM Science Fair

- 1) Tables will be provided for displaying projects. A table space of 122 cm (front) by 76 cm (side) is allotted to each entry. Height is limited to 274 cm or less. This size must not be exceeded. **Oversized projects will be disqualified.** Strong backing and sides are recommended. The project must stand by itself and cannot be fastened to the table or walls in any fashion.
- 2) Since this exhibit will be open to the public, loose items should be attached to the project board. No dangerous or spillable materials should be included. Log books should be attached to the project board.
- 3) The Golden Gate STEM Fair will not be responsible for loss or damage to projects. The exhibitor assumes all responsibility for project loss or damage.
- 4) Projects must have the same title that was used when the entry form was submitted.
- 5) Neither the student's name or the name of the student's school should appear anywhere on the project.
- 6) Students doing projects involving research related to invertebrate or vertebrate animals, humans, recombinant DNA, tissue, pathogenic agents, or controlled substances **must submit research plans to the GGSF Scientific Review Committee before any research begins! These regulations apply even in the case where research involves only surveys, questionnaires, or observation!** These plans should be filed even though students may not yet know if they are participating in GGSF. The Scientific Review Committee would prefer to screen extra projects instead of disqualifying projects that have not filed papers. Forms for this purpose are available from the GGSF Website.

The initial papers for these projects must be filed before any research begins, but no later than February 1, 2008. Projects lacking the necessary paperwork will be subject to disqualification. It is strongly recommended that students plan on filing papers much earlier than this in order to ensure that they have the necessary time to do quality research.

Please note, once again, that initial papers for these types of projects must be filed before any research begins!

7) **The following items should not be included in exhibits:**

Liquids--No liquids of any kind should be in project displays. If water is part of the experiment, then the apparatus must be displayed without water. If there are bottles of sample liquids in the display, they must be empty.

Food--Food samples may not be included in the display. Perhaps drawings, plastic food or photos could be used. This includes bottles of catsup and so on.

Bacteria--No Petri dishes or test tubes with gel and bacterial colonies may be displayed. Photos or drawings should be used here too.

Gravel, sand and dirt--If these are in the display, they must be tightly enclosed and sealed securely.

If plants are in the display, they should be completely covered and sealed (either the entire plant or the pot and soil). This includes vermiculite and any product that could be easily scattered.

Mounted birds, mammals, or any stuffed specimens will not be allowed in Science Fair displays.

Live animals--Live animals are not permitted in project displays.

Remember, the general public will be viewing your project. Please think carefully about what you want on display since everything will be handled. **We recommend that only photographs be provided to support project research. Projects which include any of the above items may be disqualified. If you are in doubt about a material, leave it out, or contact us.**