Shell Science Teaching Awards

Programs of NSTA
AGENDA

• The Awards
• Eligibility
• Criteria for Judging
• Submitting the Application
• Award Submission Requirements
• Questions
• Recognizes one outstanding classroom science teacher (K-12) who has had a positive impact on his or her students, school, and community through exemplary classroom science teaching
• Include resume, teaching schedule, narrative of your exemplary teaching and community support, nomination and letters of recommendation
• Excerpt from past awardee: “If students are excited about the topic and recognize its relevance to them, they will take the topic to a greater depth.... The real secret is to build on students’ prior knowledge and to weave each topic into more complex activities.” During 30 years of classroom teaching, he has evolved from a traditional lecturer to a culture-based teacher, including aspects of Hawaiian culture in lessons and labs.
• Prize: $10,000 expense paid trip to the NSTA National Conference on Science Education; two national finalists receive expense paid trip
• Submit your application at: https://www.nsta.org/awards-and-recognition-program
• Deadline: December 10, 2020
Shell Science Urban Science Educators Development Award

- Recognizes **seven** urban classroom science teachers (K-12)
- Include:
  - Narrative describing a plan of attendance at the national conference. Based on the previous year’s national conference
  - Resume and letters of recommendation
- Prize: $1800 for expenses to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education; mentoring; additional membership in AMSE
- Submit your application at: [https://www.nsta.org/awards-and-recognition-program](https://www.nsta.org/awards-and-recognition-program)
- **Deadline:** December 10, 2020
Eligibility
Shell Science Teaching Award

K–12 classroom science teachers. Classroom is defined as “in your environment.”
Major responsibilities include teaching science.
Taught for at least eight years, not including the current school year.
Must teach a private or public school in the United States, U.S. Territories, Department of Defense schools, or in Canada.

Step 1: Application due December 10, 2020
Step 2: Video - Ten Semifinalists January
Step 3: Site Visit - Three Finalists January - February (which may be virtual due to COVID-19)

Final selection will be made by site visit team after last site visit
Eligibility
Shell Urban Science Educators Development Awards

The applicant must be a K-12 science teacher in an urban setting. Classroom science teachers at the elementary, middle or high school level who are part of underrepresented ethnic groups are eligible. Qualifying underrepresented ethnic groups are: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans/Alaska Natives who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment, Hawaiian Natives and natives of the U.S. Pacific Islands.

Include:

Narrative describing a plan of attendance at the national conference. Based on the previous year’s national conference
Resume and letters of recommendation
Must teach a private or public school in the United States, U.S. Territories, Department of Defense schools, or in Canada.
Application due December 10, 2020
Final selection will be made by judging panel in February annually
Shell, Carolina Biological Supply Company, and the National Science Teaching Association (NSTA) have partnered to recognize outstanding elementary, middle and high school programs for their exemplary approaches to science lab instruction utilizing limited school and laboratory resources.

• The Challenge will:
  • Showcase the work of teachers who share their exemplary approach to teaching science with minimal lab equipment.
  • Award teachers/schools with additional tools, resources, and rich professional development opportunities needed to support high-quality science teaching to strengthen their existing capabilities.
Eligibility
Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge

Teachers of science in grades K-12, in the following targeted regions ONLY:

• Mobile, Alabama
• Carson, California (LAUSDs in Carson, Mormon Island, Van Nuys, Colton, Long Beach, Wilmington)
• Convent, Louisiana (St. James Parish, Livingston Parish)
• Geismar, Louisiana (Ascension Parish, City of Zachary SD, City of Central SD, City of Baker SD, East Baton Rouge Parish) \([SD = \text{school district}]\)
• New Orleans, Louisiana (Jefferson Parish, Orleans Parish, Terrebonne Parish, La Fourche Parish, Iberville Parish, St. Tammany Parish, St. Bernard Parish)
• Norco, Louisiana (St. Charles Parish, St. John Parish)

(continued)
Eligibility
Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge

• **Port Allen, Louisiana** (West Baton Rouge Parish)
• **Monaca, Pennsylvania** (Cen. Valley, Aliquippa, W. Beaver, Beaver, Rochester, N. Brighton, Riverside, Beaver Falls, Blackhawk)
• **Deer Park, Texas** (Deer Park ISD, Pasadena ISD, LaPorte ISD)
• **Houston, Texas** (Region 4 Education Service Center)
• **Kermit, Texas** (Kermit ISD, Pecos-Barstow-Toyah ISD, Wink-Loving ISD)
• **Puget Sound, Washington** (Anacortes SD, LaConner SD, Mt. Vernon SD, Burlington-Edison SD, Sedro-Wooley SD, Concrete SD, Conway SD)

*ISD=independent school district; SD=school district*
Eligibility
Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge

• Teachers may submit an entry as an individual applicant or as a team of two teachers

• A school may submit an unlimited number of applications

• A teacher is limited to one application per year (whether submitting as an individual or team applicant)

• A school may win up to two prize packages
The Award
Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge

Regional Winner elementary/middle prize package valued at $10,000 includes:
• $5,000 in Smithsonian Curriculum and Carolina Biological lab equipment
• $5,000 in NSTA prizes

Regional Winner high school prize package valued at $15,000 includes:
• $10,000 in Carolina Biological lab equipment
• $5,000 in NSTA prizes

Grand Prize package valued at $5,000 includes:
• Sponsored trip for teacher and principal of one elementary, one middle and one high school to the NSTA National Conference on Science Education in Chicago, IL, April 8 – 11, 2021
Selection Procedure
Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge

• The Regional Challenge Judges will select up to 72 regional finalists
  Deadline January 22, 2021

• To submit your application or nominate a colleague for the Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge go to: http://www.nsta.org/shellsciencelab/regional.aspx

• Create your account and begin the process
• You may save and continue your submission at any point until the deadline
Submission Requirements
Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge

Completed on-line application which includes:

- A narrative describing the applicant’s science laboratory practices and innovative use of limited laboratory equipment and resources (see separate Requirements for Narrative)
- A letter of support/validation from principal or other education supervisor who can describe the merit of the applicant’s work, and validate, attest to, or support statements made in the application narrative (1-2 pages)
- Resume or Vita with overview of teaching experience, education, community involvement, and previous awards/recognitions (2700 characters = 1 page single spaced; submit Vita for each member of applicant team)
Briefly describe your:
• science teaching philosophy
• strategies you use to teach science

Exemplar of past grand prize winner: Brown’s teaching philosophy is that you learn science best by experiencing it through conducting investigations. Her current science lab equipment is limited and outdated, while the technological resources are restricted to a shared, grade-level computer cart. This school year Brown had to borrow dissecting tools from her college instructor so students could dissect a fetal pig. During the dissection students were enthusiastic during the experience and about the connections to content previously taught. Brown wants to provide her students with these learning opportunities consistently and not be concerned with how to obtain the materials. She wants to acquire project-based kits that incorporate inquiry-based activities and critical-thinking skills to create a strong foundation for active learning.
2700 character count:

• Describe:
  ➢ your school’s current laboratory facilities
  ➢ what types of equipment and/or resources are in the facilities

• Explain:
  ➢ why laboratory upgrade support is needed
  ➢ how the lab upgrade would impact your teaching and the students’ content knowledge
Narrative Question Three
Laboratory Activity

2700 character count (equivalent to 1 page single spaced):
Describe an innovative, replicable lab activity that you have implemented using limited school lab resources with assessments

• Explain:
  ➢ the purpose and outcome with materials needed
  ➢ how the activity relates to state, national science education standards, or NGSS, or three-dimensional learning
  ➢ how you address safety requirements with this lab activity
  ➢ how you assess the activity

[exemplar is on the webpage]
Letters of Support

• Support the merits of the applicant and attest to the validity of what is asked in the grant.
• How winning the grant will impact the students and teachers at the school.
• Why the school’s budget could not fund what is being requested.
• How will the administration provide support with implementation budgeting, and assessment once the grant has been approved.
• Involvement of the community as to publicizing the funding.
Vita/Resume

• Current Vita (CV) is similar to a resume but it doesn’t have employment objectives and other items when seeking a position
• All data should be in chronological order beginning with most recent
• Educational background – include degrees, schools, dates
• Employment information – include position and dates
• Previous awards/recognition- include names and dates
• Publications – name of publication, date published
• Professional development presentations – name and date
• Memberships in professional organizations

the bullets beyond employment information are optional, but encouraged to complete for judging information
Criteria for Judging

Demonstrated:

• science inquiry innovation in the k-12 classroom, with limited equipment and materials

• impact and engagement with students

• need for support to improve science laboratory experiences (Shell Regional only)

• Support of state/national science education standards, three-dimensional learning, or NGSS

• Use of safety practices
The science strategies used with the limited lab resources that were described

Students’ understanding of science concepts

The need for support for a lab upgrade and how the newly acquired resources would enhance students’ science knowledge

Description of the lab activity that is innovative, grade appropriate, and can be replicated in other science labs

Stated:
- national/state standards; NGSS if adopted and/or three-dimensional learning
- safety requirements
- assessments with the lab activity
- purpose and outcome with materials needed for lab activity
The principal’s letter:

• attests to what is written in the application, supporting with additional statements
• describes the merits of the applicant’s work in the letter of support
• addresses the need of lab upgrade
• Budgetary constrains that this grant would address
Need More Information?

• You can send questions after the presentation to aupton@nsta.org

• Visit the website at
THANK YOU!

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Thank you to Shell, Carolina Biological Supply Company and NSTA for partnering to recognize outstanding elementary, middle and high school programs for exemplary approaches to lab instruction utilizing limited lab resources.