



Academy of Science and Technology

NEWSCLIPPINGS

Dr. Susan Caffery, Headmaster

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Upcoming Events

May 18
TWCP Grad

May 20-25
DI Global

May 26-28
Fish Camp

July 28
TWCP Orientation Camp Cavalier

Aug 6
AST Pool Party

Aug 9
First Day of School

From the Headmaster

It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as your Headmaster for the last 16 years! We have always set high expectations for our students and students have risen to the expectation. This is evidenced in the increased numbers of students qualifying as National Merit Finalists and Commended; number of students advancing to SEFH, TX SEF and ISEF; the awards earned at competitions by Texas Torque (FIRST Robotics); awards by our DI teams; new awards set by Quiz Bowl; and ever-higher AP Scores. However, I am most proud of the hard work students have done and the growth they have shown!

I want to thank the students, parents, and staff for their continued hard work. You are the best people in the world to work with!

Have a wonderful summer!

Susan M. Caffery, Ed.D. LPC

Presidential Scholars

Academy seniors **Zhuo Qi Chen** and **Siddhanth Pachipala** were selected to the 59th class of U.S. Presidential Scholars. It is a huge accomplishment that out of 161 overall honorees nationwide and only five from Texas, that two came from the same campus. The White House commission on Presidential Scholars selects students based on academic success, artistic and technical excellence, essays, school evaluations, and transcripts as well as commitment to community service and leadership.



Regeneron ISEF 2023

Eighteen students (12 projects) from the Academy qualified for the prestigious Regeneron ISEF held in Dallas, Texas. Six projects earned place awards:

Pranav Somani – earned Second Place for his project titled: *Anxi: A Novel Natural Language Processing System for the Detection and Prevention of Anxiety Disorders*

Sohi Patel – earned Third Place for her project titled: *Programmable Matter II: Optimizing Logical Topology and Automating Manufacture of a Microscale, Self-Reconfigurable Swarm Robotic System.*

Inu Baek and Rohit Pillutla – earned Fourth Place for their project *ChroniSense: Developing a Wearable Device for the Dynamic Detection, Tracking, and Mitigation of Chronic Pain.*

Ricardo Victorio – earned Fourth Place for his project *Engineered Phototropism: Improving the Energy Efficiency of Residential-Use Solar Tracking Using Soft-Bodied Thermal Expansion*

Henry Aceves and Donovan Burke – earned Fourth Place for their project *ArmAssist: A Lightweight, Concealable Active Arm Support that Empowers Victims of Muscular Dystrophy.*

Anshul Desai and Felix Li – earned Fourth place for their project *Biofuel Production Optimization Through Modified Environmental Conditions in Nutritional Content and Plant Hormones for the Purpose of Increasing Starch Dryweight Content in Lemna minor.*

The following students earned Special Awards Thursday night:

Siddhanth Pachipala (*DSM Diagnosis is Dead: Novel, AI -Powered Biopsychosocial Fingerprinting for Depressive, Anxiety, and Trauma and Stressor-Related Disorders*).

- The Air Force Research Laboratory on behalf of the United States Air Force (First Award of \$750)
- Central Intelligence Agency (First Award of \$1000)
- National Security Agency Research Directorate (First Place Award)

Shivani Mundra and Madelyn Puza (*Engineering a Cost-Effective and Biodegradable Cellulosic Battery Composition*)

- The Air Force Research Laboratory on behalf of the United States Air Force (First Award of \$750)
- China Association of Science and Technology (CAST) Award of \$1,200
- University of Texas at Dallas- Scholarship of \$5,000 per year, renewable for up to four years.

Ricardo Victorio (*Engineered Phototropism: Improving the Energy Efficiency of Residential-Use Solar Tracking Using Soft-Bodied Thermal Expansion*)

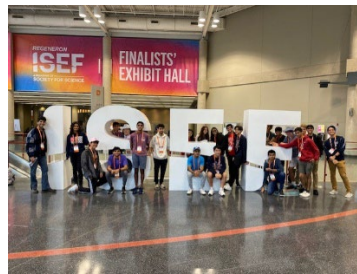
- University of Texas at Dallas-Scholarship of \$5,000 per year, renewable for up to four years.

Sohi Patel (*Programmable Matter II: Optimizing Logical Topology and Automating Manufacture of a Microscale, Self-Reconfigurable Swarm Robotic System*).

- The Air Force Research Laboratory on behalf of the United States Air Force (First Award of \$750)

Jesse Miller (*Investigatin the Effect of Qubit Entanglement on Quantum Decoherence*).

- The Air Force Research Laboratory on behalf of the United States Air Force (First Award of \$750)



Destination Imagination – DI Global

Global Finals is the culminating event for DI, with more than 1,400 of the top-tiered Destination Imagination teams from around the world gathered in Kansas City, MO. Two teams advanced to DI Globals and both teams earned place awards:

Work in Progress – 4th Place

Parnika Hangal, Lizbeth Er, Ashley Fong, Prachi Nattoo, Owen Harris, and Iris Shen



The Wild Cowgirls – 7th Place

Ikram Samiya, Gwendolyn Butler, Annabelle Harvey, Medha Suraj, and Sophia Ali.



Ocean Awareness Contest

Students between the ages of 11-18 may enter the **2023 Ocean Awareness Contest**. It is the largest collection of youth environmental arts in the world. The theme, Climate Heroes in Action, encourages students to learn about climate change and look for solutions to the climate crisis. Research and choose an inspirational scientist, activists, artist, educator, or other hero who is working to solve climate change issues. Create a piece of art, writing, or media that highlights their efforts, organizations,, and/or positive impact. The deadline is June 13, 2023. For more information visit the Bow Seat website:

https://bowseat.org/programs/ocean-awareness-contest/contest-overview/?utm_source=Bow+Seat+Ocean+Awareness+Programs&utm_campaign=549a5474f

Changes to PSAT and SAT

The College Board has announced the following:

- PSAT will be going digital in October 2023
- SAT will be going digital in March 2024.

Q. What are the changes in the Structure?

- Scoring will remain on the 1600 scale
- Shorter testing time – 2 hours instead of 3.25 hours
- Adaptive scoring- performance on the first section of topic affects the difficulty of the second section
- More time per question
- No more long reading passages
- Built in Desmos graphing calculator for ALL math questions

Q. What are the changes in Logistics?

- Moving to an all-digital format. Bring your own device or use one of College Board’s
- Still test at a testing center
- Students will install the TESTING APP prior to testing day
- Digital PSAT will be much the same as the Digital SAT in structure
- Faster score report – in days rather than weeks

	SAT & SAT School Day	PSAT – Related	International
Spring 2023	Paper	Paper	Digital
Fall 2023	Paper	Digital	Digital
Spring 2024	Digital	Digital	Digital

Q. What does this mean for current juniors (Class of 2024)?

No changes for you!

Q. What does this mean for current sophomores?

- This does affect you!
- Prioritize ACT in the Fall 2023 to avoid SAT format switch in mid-year.
- Begin taking the SAT earlier so you are finished by December 2023
- For National Merit: Prep for the Digital PSAT in Summer 2023
- Test paper SAT in fall

Q. What does this mean for current freshmen?

- Prep for the Digital SAT
- Prep for the Digital PSAT

Thank you, Woodlands Test Prep, for sharing this information with me and posting it on your website.

College Testing

Please check the College Board and ACT for any updates to testing.

SAT Test Dates (collegeboard.org)

Test Date	Normal Registration	Late Registration	Score Release
June 3, 2023	May 6, 2023	May 20, 2023	June 16, 2023

ACT Test Dates (ACT.org)

Test Date	Regular Registration	Late Registration	Photo Upload Deadline
June 10, 2023	May 5, 2023	May 19, 2023	June 2, 2023
July 15, 2023	June 16, 2023	June 23, 2023	July 7, 2023

To receive SMS/text messages from Conroe ISD, or your child’s campus about timely issues including rainy day dismissal or campus updates, text “Y” to 67587.

