Competitions

Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge
A Program of NSTA

Challenge Summary
Shell USA, Inc. 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 Shell Science Lab Regional Challenge will showcase the work of teachers, representing their schools, who submit innovative, replicable strategies to deliver quality lab experiences with limited equipment/resources. This program will award teachers/schools with additional tools, resources, and rich professional development opportunities needed to support high-quality science teaching and strengthen their existing capabilities.

Award
★ One elementary school from each asset will receive lab makeover supplies/equipment and professional development with combined total prize package valued up to $15,000*
★ One middle school* and high school from each asset will receive a lab makeover supplies/equipment and professional development with combined total prize package* valued up to $20,000.
★ Each total prize package includes Carolina Biological Supply Company lab supplies/equipment ($7,500 for elementary; $10,000 for middle/high schools), $6,000 NSTA Shell Educators Cohort professional development, NSTA membership, NSTA summer conference registration, and $1,200 NSTA summer conference travel funds **
★ A grand prize school will be selected for each grade band, the winning school’s principal and teacher will receive an additional prize package to attend NSTA’s national conference on science education.
★ The Grand Prize Winners and their principals will be honored at the Shell Reception at NSTA’s National Conference Science Education, during the second year.

*Each elementary and middle school are required to order a Smithsonian kit as part of their prize support package.
**Travel funds are to be used for transportation, lodging, meals, etc. to NSTA’s summer conference. Professional development includes access to the Smithsonian Institution, Carolina Biological Supply Company, and the NSTA content experts.

Eligibility
★ Applicants will be individual teachers of science in grades k-12, representing their schools in the following targeted areas near Shell assets:
  • Carson, CA (LAUSDs in Carson, Mormon Island, Van Nuys, Colton, Long Beach)
  • Port Allen, LA (West Baton Rouge Parish)
  • Geismar, LA (Ascension Parish, East Baton Rouge Parish, City of Zachary SD, City of Central SD, City of Baker SD)
  • Norco, LA (St. Charles Parish, St. John Parish)
  • New Orleans, LA (Jefferson Parish, Orleans Parish, Terrebonne Parish, LaFourche Parish, Iberville Parish, St. Tammany Parish, St. Bernard Parish)
  • Monaca, PA (Cen. Valley, Aliquippa, W.Beaver, Beaver, Rochester, N. Brighton, Riverside, Beaver Falls, Blackhawk)
  • Deer Park, TX (Deer Park ISD, Pasadena ISD, LaPorte ISD)
  • Houston, TX (Region 4 Education Service Center)
★ Each teacher is limited to one application per year
★ Schools may submit an unlimited number science teachers of applications annually, and each school is limited to winning two prize packages in total

Key
SD = school district
ISD = independent school district
USD = unified school district