

Naval Science Awards Program

Sample Presentation Speech for Regional and State Science Fairs

Good afternoon students, parents, friends, and honored guests.

It is a pleasure and honor for me to be here at the _____, to present Naval Science Awards, on behalf of the United States Navy and Marine Corps. I wish to convey personal congratulations from Rear Admiral Lorin C. Selby, Chief of Naval Research.

The Office of Naval Research has relentlessly pursued science and technology. Research initiatives undertaken by Naval scientists and engineers has enabled the extremely capable Naval forces we depend upon today. These initiatives have provided all of us with many items in our ever-increasingly technological world – items like the Global Positioning System for military, commercial, and now personal navigation. Other commercial spinoffs from research initiated by the Navy include semiconductors, fiber optics, blood clotters, DNA-based vaccines, and MRI's. And things we take for granted also originated in research, including cell phones, store check-out scanners, and Chem-Lites.

Science is a central aspect of our society. Scientific literacy not only gives us a better understanding of the world around us, it strengthens the everyday skills of problem solving, critical thinking, using technology effectively, and working as part of a team to reach a common objective. On a larger scale, the economic productivity of our society is tightly linked to the scientific and technological skills of the American workforce. Finally, and significantly, technological breakthroughs also help us to maintain the military advantage that is vital to our national security.

We recognize the accomplishments of students at all regional and state science fairs. ONR is very proud to also represent the Navy and Marine Corps at the International Science and Engineering Fair each May, awarding one \$10,000 Chief of Naval Research Scholarship to a student recognized in a scientific category of Naval Relevance.

As you have heard by the few examples I gave you, the Navy has very talented and hard working scientists and engineers that have made a difference. We value and respect the scientists and engineers that work with us at universities, in private industry, and for us at our Navy facilities. Thanks to these individuals, we have the best Navy in the world. Our scientists and engineers make scientific progress every day, develop medical breakthroughs and help make our country safer whether it's turning dirty laundry water into safe drinking water or improving communications with satellites. They know they make a difference and we do too. For those of you that gave it your best at this fair, you know it's exciting and challenging work, so we hope you will continue to increase your knowledge and skills by taking those tough math and science courses and participating in science and engineering internships. In closing, we appreciate having the opportunity to meet you and discuss your work.

Today we want to recognize _____ students with Naval Science Awards. Please come forward as I call your name:

[In calling the students, use their full names and their schools.]

Name _____ School _____
Name _____ School _____

I conclude by thanking all of you for allowing me to share in recognizing the accomplishments of your fine students.