

## **Information for Judges and Presenters**

Thank you for your interest in participating in the Naval Science Awards Program (NSAP) as a Judge or Awards Presenter. We need the assistance of individuals like you to reach out to bright young students across the Nation to encourage their continued interest and involvement in the sciences and engineering and to recognize their efforts as they participate in Science Fairs.

### **Science Fairs**

A science fair is a competition in which students can exhibit and demonstrate their projects to the judges and the public. The science fair serves three major purposes: it stimulates in young people an active interest in science and engineering; it provides an educational experience to students through exposure to judges and to the public; and it provides a forum for talented students to interact with peers with similar interests and to receive public recognition for their work.

NSAP works with regional and state science fairs. A regional science fair is defined for our program as a science fair in which more than one high school participates at the senior level. Junior level participation by middle school students may or may not be incorporated into a regional fair.

### **Role of NSAP Judges and Presenters**

NSAP judges will be considered as Special Awards Judges at all science fairs. As a Special Awards Judge, you will evaluate projects governed by NSAP guidance and criteria, which may differ in some ways from the guidance established for the General Awards Judges working for the science fair. As a NSAP judge, you and other NSAP judges will be asked to evaluate projects across all category areas and to come up with awards based on comparisons drawn among all students entering the fair.

Both NSAP judges and presenters have “unique” Naval roles and responsibilities as well as those related to the evaluation and award processes. You are representatives of the Naval services for students, parents, other judges, and fair administrators. You are a spokesman for the students, and must be able to provide them with correct information on service-relevant programs that might be of interest and value to them. You are most significantly a role model for them, and they may form opinions of the Navy and Marine Corps based on their interaction with you during the conduct of the fair.