



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY



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2,000 TOP STUDENTS COMPETE IN 40th SCIENCE OLYMPIAD NATIONAL TOURNAMENT AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

EAST LANSING, MI — Science Olympiad is going back to its roots, holding the 40th Annual Science Olympiad National Tournament on the same campus that hosted its first national contest back in the 1980s. On May 24-25, 2024, more than 2,000 students from 120 US teams will descend upon East Lansing to participate in rigorous knowledge-based, lab and engineering events designed to align with today’s science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) workforce needs. Among the players will be a Global Ambassador Team from Japan, Eiko Gakuen High School.

“This event has great significance to the entire Science Olympiad community, as it represents a four-decade milestone of achievement by our students, teachers, and incredible volunteers,” said Jenny Kopach, CEO of Science Olympiad and the Science Olympiad USA Foundation. “I am so grateful for our partners at MSU for bringing the National Tournament home to Michigan during this anniversary season.”

One of the nation’s most prestigious team competitions, Science Olympiad includes topics touching every letter in STEM, such as Forestry, Microbe Mission, Wind Power, Codebusters and Astronomy; hands-on and building events like Air Trajectory, Robot Tour, Scrambler, Tower and Flight are open to spectators for viewing. Streamed Opening and Awards Ceremonies will be held on Friday, May 24 at 6:30 pm and Saturday, May 25 at 7:30 pm. Link [here](#).

“We are thrilled to welcome some of the country’s brightest STEM students and their families to East Lansing and to introduce them to our world-class educational programs and facilities,”

said MSU President Kevin M. Guskiewicz, Ph.D. “Michigan State is developing the next generation of science and technology innovators, and we are proud to again be part of Science Olympiad’s 40-year history.”

NASA Astronaut Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger, a Science Olympiad alumnus, will give the Opening Ceremony keynote address. Students will also hear video remarks from MSU President Dr. Kevin Guskiewicz and Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, and in-person remarks from Interim Provost Thomas Jeitschko. U.S. Congresswoman Haley Stevens (MI-11) signed a Congressional Proclamation recognizing Science Olympiad’s 40th anniversary season.

MSU will host a STEM Expo in the STEM Building on Friday, May 24 from 9am to 3pm featuring hands-on activities, career exploration and college-going information from the MSU College of Natural Science, Centers for Disease Control, Corteva Agriscience, the Detroit Zoological Society, National Free Flight Society, Genomics Research, Michigan Science Center, Midnight Science Club, Office of Admissions, Potter Park Zoo, MSU School of Packaging, Ward’s Science, USDA Forest Service and more. See the full list of events, schedules and activities [here](#).

In advance of the tournament, five \$10,000 Founders’ Scholarships were presented to outstanding high school seniors from the Science Olympiad USA Foundation: Ishanvi Kommula from Monta Vista High School in California; Ahmed Eldeeb from Spruce Creek High School in Florida; Emily Won from Barrington High School in Illinois; Shaunak Sharma from Brunswick High School in New Jersey; and Hannah Tang from Lincoln East High School in Nebraska. More about the scholarship and the founders, Dr. Gerard and Sharon Putz of Michigan and Jack Cairns of Delaware, can be found [here](#).

Science Olympiad is supported nationally by the Science Olympiad USA Foundation, Michigan State University, NASA’s Universe of Learning Astrophysics STEM Learning & Literacy Network, Avantor Foundation, Ward’s Science, Ramboll, University of Nebraska Lincoln, Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation, Corteva Agriscience, Combined Federal Campaign, Double Good, Google, NBC Universal Foundation, ADM, Amcor Cares Foundation, CDC Foundation, Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge, InGenius Prep, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the North American Association for Environmental Education, Texas

Instruments, University of Delaware, National Free Flight Society, OnShape, SkyCiv, TKS, Catalent, Investing in Communities, Molymod, Yale Young Global Scholars, Japan Science and Technology Agency, mHUB, Midnight Science Club, Million Women Mentors, MxD, STEMConnector and the USDA Forest Service. Local supporting sponsors are Michigan State University, Michigan Science Olympiad, FRIB, AgroLiquid, Choose Lansing, MSU Federal Credit Union, Joy of Coding, NEOGEN, and these MSU Colleges and Departments: College of Human Medicine, College of Engineering, College of Natural Science, College of Osteopathic Medicine, School of Packaging, Department of Forestry and the Office of Admissions.

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[Science Olympiad](#) is an Oakbrook Terrace-based, national non-profit organization founded in 1984 dedicated to improving the quality of K-12 STEM education, increasing interest and opportunity in science, creating a technologically literate workforce and providing recognition for outstanding achievement by both students and teachers.

[Michigan State University](#) has been advancing the common good with uncommon will for more than 165 years. One of the world's leading public research universities, MSU pushes the boundaries of discovery to make a better, safer, healthier world for all while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 400 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.

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National Website: <https://www.soinc.org/2024-national-tournament>