



## NATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR

The AFCEA Educational Foundation will sponsor the best middle school science or engineering project related to the communications, intelligence or information systems fields selected from science fairs nationwide. Nominations are solicited from AFCEA chapters and their members. Each AFCEA chapter in the United States is asked to nominate one project.

**The Grand Prize winner AND the First Honorable Mention winner both are eligible to attend SPACE CAMP in Huntsville, Alabama, during summer 2010. (See details below.) Please submit materials to arrive in the Foundation office NLT Friday, May 7, 2010.**

### **CRITERIA/PROCEDURE: (Please follow these guidelines!)**

1. The nominee must be a U.S. citizen and a current middle school student attending school in the United States. **Please note: Only middle school students will be considered – high school and elementary school students/projects are not eligible.**
2. The nominated project must have been developed during the current academic year.
3. The project must be science- or engineering-oriented and related to the disciplines which support communications, intelligence or information systems, e.g., physics, math, robotics, electronics, or computers.
5. The student must explain his or her project to a nominator, normally a representative of the local AFCEA Chapter. (A list of suggested questions is attached.) A standard VHS format video tape or a DVD of this explanation must be submitted.
6. Any student selected as the Grand Prize winner is ineligible for subsequent nomination.
7. The Nomination Form must be filled out with the student verifying that the project is his/her endeavor, endorsed by a teacher, and signed by the AFCEA nominator, i.e., a third party without vested interests (normally an AFCEA member or judge).
8. The Agreement must be signed by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), which stipulates that should the student Win or be selected as the First Honorable Mention, the parents/guardians will allow their child to attend a 6-day session of Space Camp at Huntsville, Alabama, during summer 2010.
9. The AFCEA selection committee will review all projects and announce the winners in May. The decision of the AFCEA judges will be final. All Chapters submitting nominations will be notified as soon as the winner and First Honorable Mention are selected.

### **PRIZES:**

1. The Grand Prize winner will receive a 6-day session at Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. Airfare, lodging and meals are included, as well as ground transport on site.
2. The First Honorable Mention winner will also receive a 6-day session at Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. Airfare, lodging and meals are included, as well as ground transport on site.

3. Additional monetary awards will be presented for Honorable Mention and Runner Up entries.

### **SELECTION GUIDELINES:**

All nominated projects will be judged according to the following:

- Eligibility
- Originality/creative ability
- Scientific/engineering significance
- Research/experimentation
- Skills/equipment/design
- Practicality/usefulness
- Presentation/clarity
- Relation to AFCEA disciplines

In order to provide sufficient information for judging, the nominator should include **but is not limited to** the following questions while taping the video or DVD.

- What is the project? (Please show the display/presentation.)
- Where does the idea originate? Is it a suggested research project from textbook, scientific journals, lab manuals, or is it developed from the student's own reading or work?
- What is the objective of the project? Has it been achieved?
- Is the student aware of other approaches or theories concerning the project?
- How much time was spent on the project? How long has the student studied, investigated or researched the project or subject?
- Where was the project done? Home, school lab, or university lab?
- Did the student receive any assistance from parents, teachers, scientists, or engineers? If yes, in what way?
- Was the project carried out under the supervision of an adult, or did the student work largely on his/her own?
- Where did equipment/material come from? Did the student build it, own it, or borrow it from a lab, school, or organization?
- What are the significant things the student has learned from this project?



**AFCEA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION  
NATIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR  
NOMINATION FORM**

1. AFCEA Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Chapter Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete** Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

POC Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ POC Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_

4. School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ *(full name/city/state)*

5. Current School Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Brief Description of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Please attach a detailed summary of the project, or if appropriate and available, a copy of the paper on the project.

9. If the project has been entered in any local or regional science fairs, please state the names of the fairs and the honors received.

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This project completed in \_\_\_\_\_ (mo/yr) is truly an endeavor of \_\_\_\_\_ (student's signature).

Endorsed by: \_\_\_\_\_ (signature of students' teacher) \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

Print name of teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Chapter Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

**PLEASE MAIL TO:** Norma Corrales  
AFCEA Educational Foundation  
4400 Fair Lakes Court, Fairfax, VA 22033



## AGREEMENT

**TO: AFCEA Educational Foundation**

I/we hereby agree that should my/our child, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) win the AFCEA National Middle School Science Fair, sponsored by the AFCEA Educational Foundation, I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent's/guardian's name), and my spouse, \_\_\_\_\_ (spouse's name), agree to allow my/our child to attend a 6-week session of SPACE CAMP in Huntsville, Alabama, during summer 2010. All related expenses will be paid by the AFCEA Educational Foundation.

Additionally, I understand that should my/our child be selected as the First Honorable Mention, I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent's/guardian's name), and my spouse, \_\_\_\_\_ (spouse's name), agree to allow my/our child to attend a 6-week session of SPACE CAMP in Huntsville, Alabama, during summer 2010. All related expenses will be paid by AFCEA Educational Foundation

NOTE: Actual SPACE CAMP sessions TBD.

Parent/guardian or parents/guardians must sign below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature) (date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature) (date)