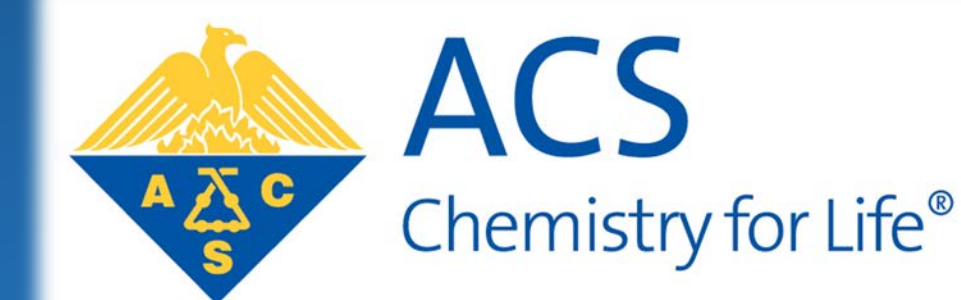


American Chemical Society Orange County Section (OCACS)

2018 ChemLuminary Award Winner
Outstanding Continuing Public Relations
Program of Local Section



National Chemistry Week

What do Chemistry and Zoos have in common? They come together every year during our National Chemistry Week (NCW) program. A smorgasbord of hands-on chemistry experiments for kids is offered at the Santa Ana Zoo in Santa Ana, CA. Around twelve college groups help make this a success by setting up stations that range from children making space SLIME to watching (and eating!) liquid nitrogen ice cream, because science is fun! The Santa Ana Zoo has been cooperating with the Orange County Section continuously since the late 1990s for NCW. It must be said that the college students helping the children with experiments had as much fun as the little kids – a great role modeling experience for both groups! We also offer a science show, Rudy's Radical Science, which has an attendance of 250-300 people (definitely standing room only!). Check our website for more NCW fun photos! <http://www.OCACS.org>



ACS High School Exam

The Education Committee runs an annual event to recognize every high school chemistry program in Orange County, CA. Participation continues to grow, and the exam now routinely attracts about 300 students from over 40 Orange County High Schools. The highest scorer from each school gets their name engraved on a perpetual plaque, which is showcased at their school throughout the year. The top scorer in the county is given the Bruce Davis Award. Team Awards are given to the six best high schools.



International Chemistry Olympiad

The Orange County Chemistry Olympiad is the first step in the US National Chemistry Olympiad. Typically about forty high schools from all over Orange County send up to four students each to compete in the Local Section exam. The top scorers on this exam are eligible to advance to the national round of the competition. Students from our section often finish with High Honor (top 50 in the nation). In 2018 two students finished in the top twenty in the nation and attended the Study Camp at the Air Force Academy. Congratulations to all the students and their teachers on this outstanding achievement!



ChemLuminary Awards 2017-2018

2018 Award

Outstanding Continuing Public Relations Program of a Local Section – The Orange County Local Section provided the community with tangible examples of careers in – and benefits of – chemistry. The section has hosted annual award programs for high school and college chemistry students and their families for more than 50 years.

2017 Awards

- Best Overall Local Section Minority Affairs Committee** – The National Chemistry Week celebration at the Santa Ana Zoo
- Outstanding Regional Meeting** – The 2015 Western Regional Meeting
- Outstanding NCW Event for a Specific Audience** – The National Chemistry Week events since the late 1990s



OCACS Student Awards Dinners

- In 2018 the Orange County Section hosted their 55th Annual High School Awards dinner to honor the best performers in the High School Exam, the Chemistry Olympiad and the Orange County Science & Engineering Fair, and all their teachers.
- College students were honored at the 49th Annual College Awards Dinner. Fifteen local colleges and universities recognized 17 students whose passion for chemistry led to their influential contributions.



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Women Chemists:	Dr. Sandra Thompson
Webmaster:	Dr. Rabin Lai

Check our website! <http://www.OCACS.org>

Other OCACS Events

- The Orange County Section organizes six to eight dinner meetings every year, with speakers drawn from academia, industry and government.
- The Environmental Committee holds five meetings a year on a range of technical topics to keep members connected and facilitate networking and collaborations.
- The Younger Chemists Committee hosts a variety of community outreach events at local libraries, schools, and hospitals to promote excitement for chemistry among younger kids.
- We participate in the OC Science & Engineering Fair and other community events to promote chemistry among young students and general public.



We thank our volunteers, including high school teachers, faculties, college students, professionals, businesses, and retired chemists for their continued support!