
The American Chemical Society

Founded in 1876 and chartered by Congress, the American Chemical Society is the world's largest scientific society. It is a self-governed individual membership professional organization consisting of 151,000 members, representing a wide range of disciplines of chemists, chemical engineers, and technicians.

The organization seeks to promote the public's perception and understanding of chemistry and the chemical sciences through public outreach programs and provides career development assistance and employment opportunities for science professionals.

The Orange County ACS Section has over 1000 members, and holds 8 general meetings and dozens of committee meetings each year. Along with supporting the Science and Engineering Fair, the Education Committee of Orange County ACS has testing and awards programs for high school and college chemistry students, and demonstrations and activities for elementary children in the fall and spring.

Orange County Section 2023-2024 Officers

Chair	Dr. Rabin Lai
Chair-Elect	
Secretary	Beverly Matsuda
Treasurer	Robert Cohen
Younger Chemists Comm Chair	Sharai Mendez
Councilor	Robert Cohen
	Sanda Sun
	Dr. Rabin Lai

Thank you to the following individuals for also volunteering time and talent to our programs.

Sanda Sun	Nicholas Brighton	Anneka Miller Casas
Kevin Chen	Andrea Chou	Crystal Cooper
Dr. Richard Deming	Kelli Gaines	Carly Gordon
Dr. Allison Gotoh	Dr. Mark Hamamura	Theodore Kidane
Andy Luong	Dr. Steve Mang	Bev Matsuda
Huy Nguyen	Liz Shenton	Dr. Michael Skinner
Dan Thomassen	Valerie Thompson	Meghan Truax
James Womack	Michael Woodward	

The Orange County ACS section sponsored the dinners, medallions and cash awards for the student winners and the teachers' dinners and the school plaques.

American Chemical Society

Orange County Section



ACS
Chemistry for Life[®]

High School Awards Program

Concordia University, Irvine

May 21, 2024

We gratefully acknowledge: Irvine Valley College as the sponsor of part 1 of the Chemistry Olympiad Exam



Dr. Ted Lorange of Vanguard University's Costa Mesa campus as the sponsor of part 2 of the Chemistry Olympiad Exam



CSU Fullerton as the sponsor of the First Year Chemistry Exam



Welcome

Dr. Carol Grimes

*Golden West College, professor emerita
Master of Ceremonies*

Italian Buffet

with dessert and beverages

Speaker

Anneka Miller Casas

UCI Doctoral Candidate

“Ultrafast Spectroscopy to Understand
Molecules and Solutions”

Awards

Salute to Excellence

Orange County Science Fair Winners

Chemistry Olympiad Team Awards

First Year Chemistry Team Awards

National Chemistry Olympiad Participants

Bruce Davis Award

Margaret Carlberg Award

National Study Camp Qualifier

Carol J. Grimes Chemistry Teacher of the Year

Special Awards

Top Students for First Year & Olympiad Tests

Closing

Margaret Carlberg Award

Liran Zhu Troy High School

The Education Committee of OCACS is proud to honor the service of Margaret Carlberg to students and to ACS by creating this special award. It is given each year to the top Chemistry Olympiad student, based on the scores for the first Olympiad exam each year. Margaret helped shape the lives of many students as a chemistry teacher for both first year and AP chemistry at Cornelia Connelly High School, and served as chair of the Education Committee for 14 years. In 2005 she received the Charles Bennett award from our local section for service to “the wonderful world of chemistry” (Margaret’s favorite phrase).

The Chemistry Olympiad Team Competition

The Team Competition Award is given to the top six school teams from the Chemistry Olympiad Local Exam Competition. Team scores were calculated based on the total number of questions answered correctly the top four competitors from each school. This year’s winners are:

First Place **Troy High School**
Liran Zhu, Daniel Jiang, Aditya Peddi, Brendan Lee

Second Place **Valencia High School**
Everett Anderson, Saebyeok Keum, Nathan Lee, Tanya Vidhun

Third Place **Los Alamitos High School**
Christian Szymborski, Spencer Bystrom, Gabriel Mee, Jason Khan

Fourth Place **Orange County School of the Arts**
Dane Bergman, James Conroy, Nathan Tatsuta, Sumin Cho

Fifth Place (tie) **Sage Hill School**
Ryne Wang, Vera Yang, Sophia Ling, Amy Choi

Fifth Place (tie) **Arnold O. Beckman High School**
Srishti Pradhan, Carson Gan, Darren Fang, Aidean Azami

Science Fair Winners

Junior Division — Alexis Binder, Fairmont Private School, “Effects of pH on Spherification of Food Liquids”; Advisor: Ms. Hashemian

Senior Division — Ashley Cao, Portola High School, “Investigating the Effect of Milk Fat on the Phenolic Content of Coffee”; Advisor: Ms. Truax

Special Awards

Orange County Section ACS: Most outstanding high school student program

OCACS Volunteer of the Year: Dr. Beverley Matsuda

Top Chemistry Olympiad Student for each Participating School

Student	Teacher	School
Carson Gan	Michael Tran	Arnold O. Beckman
Andrew Huynh	Maria Mastropaolo	Bolsa Grande
Camden Lien	Huy Nguyen	Capistrano Valley
Jack Li	Kim Ngo	Corona del Mar
Min-Hyuk Jang	Mitch Schacht	Crean Lutheran
Yunkai Zheng	Sara Moore	Cypress
Tyler Furuichi	Michael Woodward	Esperanza
Brian Vu	Beverly Lynch	Garden Grove
Christian Szymborski	Tim Jones	Los Alamitos
Ethan Bulosan	Lauren Murphy	Marina
Dane Bergman	Heather Jonson	OC School of Arts
Elain Shi	Andy Luong	Pacific Academy
Nathaniel Kim	Hana Lim	Pacifica
Kayley Winata	Meghan Truax	Portola
Vera Yang	Anie Robinson	Sage Hill
Gabriel Park	Carly Gordon	Santa Margarita
Yubo Wang	Andrea Chou	St. Margaret's
Haokun Chen	Nick DeMello	Stanford Online
Zayne Shah	Andrew Colomac	Sunny Hills
Jingyu Zhang	Tori Goertz	Tarbut V'Torah
Diego Monroy	Kelli Gaines	Trabuco Hills
Liran Zhu	Justin Kim	Troy
Elise Tran	Abbey Zinsser	Tustin
Yassin Eltaramsi	Nicholas Brighton	University
Everett Anderson	Brady Bilhartz	Valencia
Jacob Mendoza	Jennifer Blackie	Woodbridge

The top student from each school has their name engraved on their school's perpetual plaque.

National Olympiad Study Camp Qualifier
Yufei Chen..... University High School

Salute to Excellence Awards

The Chemistry and Biochemistry Department
California State University, Fullerton

Irvine Valley College

National Chemistry Olympiad Participants

Student	School	Teacher
Yufei Chen	University	Nicholas Brighton
Liran Zhu	Troy	Justin Kim
Andrew Rusli	St. Margaret's	Andrea Chou
Sophia Chen	Sage Hill	Anie Robinson
Feodor Yevtushenko	University	Nicholas Brighton
Victor Li	University	Nicholas Brighton
Nolan Nguyen	Edison	Marcos Cabrera
Daniel Jiang	Troy	Justin Kim
Daniel Li	Los Alamitos	Tim Jones
Everett Anderson	Valencia	Brady Bilhartz
Ryan Nguyen	Tesoro	Amy Hodges

Order based on March 2, 2024 Local Olympiad test score with 179 students representing 33 different county high schools participating. Maximum two students per school as outlined in national rules unless a school had a student attend the National Study Camp in a prior year. That student would not count against a school's quota.

Special Recognition to...

The Chemistry and Biochemistry Department of CSU Fullerton, for hosting the First Year exam,
Dr. John C. Hernandez, Irvine Valley College, for hosting the Chemistry Olympiad test,
Dr. Ted Lorange, Vanguard University, for hosting Olympiad tests, handling online registration, and judging the Orange County Science Fair,
Stacey Hamamura, Santiago Canyon College, and Stephanie Nobles, Fullerton College, for coordination of the First Year Exam,
Brent Shenton, Valencia HS, for coordination of the Chemistry Olympiad exams,
Dr. Carol Grimes, Golden West College, Stacey Hamamura, Trabuco Hills HS, and Anie Robinson, Sage Hill School, for coordinating the dinner planning, arrangements, reservations, and decorations,
Dr. Rabin Lai for arranging online registration and reservations,
Kim Ngo, Corona del Mar HS and Tim Jones, Los Alamitos HS, for coordinating the awards,
Kim Ngo, Corona del Mar HS and Shannon Regli, Reglium Academy for their leadership in identifying the Teacher of the Year,
Dr. Renee Link, UCI, for countless work behind the scenes with computer script, test writing and connecting us with other colleagues at UCI
Dr. Carol Grimes, Golden West College, for her leadership in every chemistry program sponsored by the OCACS

Top First Year Chemistry Student for each Participating School

Student	Teacher	School
Kaitlyn Wang	Kelly Im	Arnold O. Beckman
Kieran LeMaster-Farrimond	Brian Brierly	Canyon
Benjamin Kamel	Kim Ngo	Corona Del Mar
Lucas Wang	Sara Moore	Cypress
Katelyn Smith	Ken Tse	El Toro
David Yu	Michael Woodward	Esperanza
Trinie Tran	Beverly Lynch	Garden Grove
Nathan Tran	Dean Wang	John F. Kennedy
Luke Sun	Jan Kilduff	JSerra Catholic
Roman Curiel	Gema Suarez Hardaway	Katella
Hossegor Harman	Tim Jones	Los Alamitos
Matthew Beachler	Daisy Pham	Marina
Eduardo Ceja Valencia	Marjan Faridpak	Mission Viejo
Alexandra Shaw	Taylor McClanahan	Newport Harbor
Juneau Foxlin	Heather Jonson	OC School of the Arts
Jenna Whang	Hana Lim	Pacifica
Krish Maheshwari	Meghan Truax	Portola
Katie Tran	Juliana Morgan	Saddleback
Yutong Zhang	Kerry Langdale	Sage Hill
McPhinneaus Holmes-Selby	Dave Proodian	San Clemente
Cyrus Chung	Mark VanNess	Santa Margarita
Trisha Dinh	Lan Vu	Seegerstrom
Shane Ukishima	Laura DiCrisi	Servite
Riley Bredall	Andrea Chou	St. Margaret's Episcopal
Kevin Lee	Alex Hua	Sunny Hills
Ryan Buntzen	Mario Camiling	Trabuco Hills
Indaiah Lowe	Paul Tschida	Tustin
Mark Menaker	Marissa Kaak	University
Irene Pan	Brady Bilhartz	Valencia
Marissa Huang	Elaine Walker	Woodbridge

Based on April 27, 2024 exam with 211 students from 31 schools participating. The top student from each school has their name engraved on their school's perpetual plaque.

Carol J. Grimes Chemistry Teacher of the Year Anie Robinson Sage Hill School

Since 2017, our section has recognized one teacher as the Orange County Chemistry Teacher of the Year. This year, we are excited to rename this award in honor of Carol Grimes, who has been the chair of the OCACS education committee for the past 17 years. She has been instrumental in chemistry education in Orange County, helping thousands of students over her tenure. On top of being an amazing chemistry professor at Golden West College for 33 years, Carol has helped with numerous science outreach programs, such as Family Science Nights, Science Showtime, Science Olympiad, and National Chemistry Week. In addition to recognizing Anie Robinson, we would also like to recognize **Meghan Truax** as a finalist from Portola High School.

Bruce Davis Award

Mark Menaker University High School

The Orange County Section has created a special award in honor and memory of Dr. Bruce Weldon Davis, to recognize excellence in chemistry. It is given to the student with the highest score on the First Year Orange County ACS test. Dr. Davis' positive outlook on life, his compassion for all people, his professionalism, his excellence in science and his recognition of education as the essential ingredient in success have shaped the activities of our section for many years.

The First Year Chemistry Team Competition

The Team Competition Award is given to the top six school teams from the First Year Chemistry Exam Competition. Team scores were calculated based on the total number of questions answered correctly for the top five competitors from each school. This year's winners are:

First Place University High School

Mark Menaker, Luca Valdevit, Brianna Liu, Lawrence Liu, Joshua Poon

Second Place Valencia High School

Irene Pan, Aashna Shah, Grace Kim, Leana Sung, Edwin Anthoniraj

Third Place Corona del Mar High School

Benjamin Kamel, Andrew Kim, Sean Murphy, Jillian Kaufman, Alex Denisova

Fourth Place St. Margaret's Episcopal School

Riley Bredall, Wenxu Yao, Valentino Karmis, Cyrus Sadati, Luke Meggers

Fifth Place (tie) Orange County School of the Arts

Juneau Foxlin, Marcello Bui, Rohan Soni, Lila Olson, Lauren Young

Fifth Place (tie) Los Alamitos High School

Hossegor Harman, Kunhee Kim, Kyler Bai, Sully Pareti, Christopher Eng