



## Orange County American Chemical Society Education Committee

Dear Chemistry Teacher,

April 2026

For more than 50 years, the Orange County American Chemical Society (OCACS) has recognized outstanding chemistry students who participated in the OCACS testing program. This year we will again be hosting an Awards Dinner honoring: the teachers and top first year and top advanced chemistry students from each high school, the 11 Orange County National Olympiad Qualifiers, the top 6 Olympiad teams, the top 6 first year exam teams, and the junior and senior Science Fair Special Chemistry Award winners.

Dinner for each winning student and their teacher will be provided free, compliments of OCACS. Please make a copy of the enclosed letter for each winning student. (listed on the next page).

Event: High School Chemistry Awards Dinner  
*Free complimentary dinner for student and their teacher*

Date: Tuesday, **May 19, 2026**

Place: Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, CA. College Center Ballrooms (3rd Floor) ([Map](#))  
Parking \$5.35 Lot **C or D** (corner of Fairview Road and Merrimac Way) \*See instructions below.

Time: 5:45 Check-in registration, dinner line opens (vegetarian option included)  
6:45 Speaker  
7:30 Awards Presentation (Bring your camera for photos after the ceremony)

Our speaker this year will be a graduate student from UC Irvine, on the path to a doctorate in chemistry. They will describe the path to this choice, as well as sharing a bit about their research.

**Reservations for Teacher and Student are required** for attendance to the Awards Dinner.

- Registration window is Monday April 27, 2026 noon - **Monday May 11, 2026 11:59pm deadline**
- **One teacher from each school makes reservations** for all the student award winners from your school AND makes reservations for all of their teachers who can attend.
- Register at [this website](#). (Or go to [www.ocacs.org](http://www.ocacs.org) and navigate to the High School Chemistry Awards Dinner 2026 page under the Education tab. Click on the "Dinner Reservations" button to go to the next page. Select the "Teachers & Students" button to open the reservation form. Fill it out and click "Submit.")

**Students cannot register themselves, so if you, the teacher, do not plan to attend, please register your student(s) for them to attend.**

**Guests of students.**

- Each student may invite up to three paying guests. **Registration** is May 4, 2026 at noon - May 11, 2026 11:59 pm. The dinner price for a dinner guest is \$35 each. Registration link is in the letter to students.
- Non-paying guests may arrive at 6:45 pm for the program and awards and skip the dinner, but reservations are necessary through Stacey Hamamura with the number of non-paying attendees and their names by email: [edchair2@ocacs.org](mailto:edchair2@ocacs.org).

**No reservations will be accepted after May 11th.**

**\*Paid Parking:** Lot C or D (corner of Fairview Road and Merrimac Way). Map of the area [here](#). Requires purchase of a virtual daily parking permit - using the *Passport Parking App* or [www.PassportParking.com](http://www.PassportParking.com). More information at [OCC's parking information page](#).

We look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stacey Hamamura".

Stephanie Nobles and Stacey Hamamura  
Co-Chairs, Education Committee, Orange County ACS