

## About the Tri-County Science & Technology Fair

Since 1994, the annual Tri-County Science & Technology Fair has been organized by the Putnam Children's Discovery Center (PCDC) for the purpose of rewarding children who spend their time creating innovative and well-researched STEM projects. Our purpose is to provide a public forum where students can display their own visual interpretation of a scientific concept, principle, or technological application, that the student has learned in school, by independent studies and/or by their own developed interests. A forum whereby students in the process of designing and developing a science project from concept to presentation, exercise specific preparation skills (such as data gathering, evaluation, problem solving, decision making, thought process, and creative thinking). PCDC developed a competition in which students can compete on a regional level against other students within their grade level from surrounding community schools, both public and private.

In an effort to fully integrate the scientific community at large the Fair recruits tri-state area judges that are scientists, engineers, college professors, and other technical and health professionals who work in your child's entered category. In some cases, we use college students with a major in your child's category. We proudly use West Point Cadets and other military science personnel as well.

Fair participation is open to students from public, private and home schools located in the New York counties of Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam.

The Tri-County Science & Technology Fair is the only regional fair in our area with three grade levels: Elementary, Middle and High School. Most fairs only showcase the upper levels, but our fair provides an opportunity to start competing in Kindergarten and continue until a senior in high school.

A student must win a local fair at their Elementary or Middle School to qualify for the event. Middle school student winners at our fair have the option to advance to the prestigious Broadcom Masters competition.

Many participating high school students have been selected by their principal or science department chair to present original research or demonstrate a scientific, mathematical or technological principle. The top high school students, who have opted to enter original research in the fair, are eligible to move on to the New York State level competition – the NYS Science Congress.

## Please note the following Pandemic Exceptions

As with many businesses the pandemic has forced us to modify. Therefore a student that competed in a previous Tri County Fair can enter themselves if their school is unable to select students. Additionally teachers can directly enter students if their school fair cannot be held. And lastly if only a handful of students have interest the school may allow the parents (with their permission) to directly enter and pay vs the school paying.

Additionally in 2021 we have allowed the Long Island counties of Nassau & Suffolk to join us so their students can have a competition path for Broadcom.