



2021 Calgary Youth Science Fair
March 20th-26th, 2021
Olympic Oval
University of Calgary

Dear Colleague;

Would you like your students to participate in an exciting event for the upcoming year? If yes, then consider helping them take part in the 2021 Virtual Calgary Youth Science Fair. The city-wide science fair is open to students in Grades 5 to 12. Your students will benefit in a variety of ways by completing a science fair project at the school level. For those students who wish to compete at the next level, our annual city-wide fair also provides a healthy competitive environment. Our fair is organised to benefit all students, regardless of whether they end up winning a major prize. The Science Fair experience is truly a unique learning opportunity that you should consider for your students.

The Calgary Youth Science Fair Society is a non-profit organization made up of approximately forty directors who work year-round to put on the city-wide science fair. With a significant annual prize budget, our fair has a prize structure that rewards all students who participate.

Normally, the fair takes place at the Olympic Oval on the campus of the University of Calgary. However, due to Covid-19 protocols that likely will still be in effect in the spring of 2021, the fair will be organized as a virtual event.

The Calgary Youth Science Fair is also part of a larger, national organization, Youth Science Canada, which sponsors a national science fair. Every year up to twelve students with the best projects from our local fair are sent to the Canada Wide Science Fair, at our expense.

If your school would like to participate in our program, please identify a school science fair coordinator to whom we can send all future communications for this year's science fair. A coordinator's responsibilities include:

- Receiving all communications from CYSF and sharing them with students/parents in a timely fashion, as appropriate
- Ensuring the online school sign-up is carried out on time; you will be asked to give coordinator contact information during the online school sign-up
- Ensuring students from their school are aware of procedures and rules regarding science fair projects.
- Overseeing the students' projects
- Ensuring that the online student/project registration is submitted to CYSF on time
- Ensuring that students have reviewed the entry rules and other important documentation as it becomes available to the coordinators

Online School Sign-up (we will confirm this via email in the near future and include details surrounding the process)

If you are a parent of a child whose school does not participate in the CYSF program, it is possible to register yourself as your child's coordinator and your child's project will be entered as an independent project. In order to register yourself as a coordinator of an independent project contact Brenda Bossenberry at entries@cysf.org. The deadline for submitting and independent entry will be **January 31st**.

CYSF directors are willing to assist school coordinators with any aspect of preparing for the city-wide fair. To request assistance email us at entries@cysf.org.

2021 “Soft” Timeline

December & January - School Registration (CYSF.org)

December, January & February – Project Registration (CYSF.org)

March 1st – All projects must be registered through CYSF.org, no new projects will be added to the system

March 19th – Projects will be closed and students can no longer edit/update their registered projects

March 20-26th – First Round Virtual Judging (judges will score student projects without interacting with students)

April 6 – 16th – Second Round Virtual Judging (judging will take place using a “Meet” platform, students will meet with multiple judges through a process TBD).

April 16th – We are asking students to “save this date” for the CYSF Awards Ceremony and the selection of our Calgary Canada Wide Science Fair Team

IN SUMMARY, PLEASE NOTE:

1. Schools must appoint a coordinator and sign up online by January 31st, 2021 to participate in the 2021 Fair.
2. If a student needs to register as an independent (their school does not participate in our program) their parent or guardian must contact Brenda Bossenberry at entries@cysf.org by January 31st, 2021.
3. We have a quota for ALL schools in both elementary and secondary. The quota is one project for every 30 students in your school (in elementary schools only grade 5 and 6 students are counted). In addition, there is a maximum cut-off of 15 projects allowed regardless of school enrolment. Middle schools must report their elementary student totals (for grades 5 & 6) and secondary student totals (grades 7-12) separately, as indicated on the online school sign-up form. This quota will be in effect for the 2021 fair. All schools, regardless of enrollment, will be allowed at least 4 projects this year. HUB students are attached to a teacher who is given a set number of projects that matches our already established quotas.
4. Our web site address is www.cysf.org. New information and updates will be added as appropriate.
5. **If you have any questions please contact us at entries@cysf.org .**

Yours sincerely,

Entries Committee

Calgary Youth Science Fair Society