

Winners at the Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair - 2026

Xavier Gitre

Parent Absent Begging in Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialis sialis*): correlates, characteristics, and consequences

Blacksburg High School

Animal Sciences - Honorable Mention

Lilyanna Simpkins

Evaluating The Emotional Responses Between Real and AI Images From Different Softwares

Southwest Virginia Governor's School (Dublin)

John Bercow Award

Joanna Jackson

Screwable Modular Components for the Pylon of Pediatric Leg Prosthetics

Southwest Virginia Governor's School (Dublin)

Biomed. Sciences, Biomed. Engineering & Translational Medicine - Honorable Mention

Saad Ali

Investigating Diurnal Oscillations of Cell Division Timing in *Stentor coeruleus*

Blacksburg High School

Cell, Molecular and Computational Biology & Biochemistry - Second Place

Olivia Close

Assessment of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) in Honey Produced in

Southwest Virginia Apiaries

Southwest Virginia Governor's

Chemistry - Honorable Mention

Lydia Pratt

The Effects of Nickel Content and Quenching Rate on the Mechanical Properties and Microstructure of ASTM A588 Weathering Steel

Southwest Virginia Governor's School (Dublin)

Materials Science - First Place

Eleanor Steele

Temperature-Dependent Filtration Efficiency of SMS Nano-biochar for Trimethoprim Removal

Southwest Virginia Governor's School (Dublin)

Materials Science - Third Place

Virginia Section of the American Water Works Association - Third Place

Ian Yu

Performance Analysis of a 5 Bar linkage pentapod for Martian locomotion

Blacksburg High

Robotics, Software & Embedded Systems -Third Place
Leidos Award for Excellence in Applied Science - First Place