Preparing Your Abstract

The format for the 200-word abstract includes: 1 inch margins, keyed in 12 point font (Times New Roman). Abstracts must be adequate in length but not exceed these specifications. The header preceding the abstract body must include:

- Title of the research;
- Authors name(s);
- High school, high school city, high school state;
- Name of teacher/mentor/sponsor and his or organization. Precede the individual's name with a subheading (i.e., teacher, mentor, sponsor);
- Include one line of space between the heading and the abstract body.

Please carefully proofread your submission. Abstracts will not be retyped or edited.

The abstract should accurately convey the essential nature of the research conducted and the most significant conclusions reached. A further purpose of the abstract is to attract the interest and curiosity of the non-specialist reader and thus encourage exchange, discussion, and elaboration between various authors and between authors and readers.

Content

- What you did, how you did it, what it means, why you did it and what you found.
- Citing of experimentation completed by submission date (anticipated experimentation or results should not be included.
- Diagrams, if used, must be drawn in black ink.
- Reference to a specific procedure should be restricted to a description of the process employed.
- State results, conclusions or findings clearly and concisely.
- Credit any financial sponsorship at the end of the abstract: “Research supported by …”

*Important: (48) Hours following your selection as a presenter at the Upstate New York Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, you must email your abstract in word (.doc) and paper in (.pdf) format in the proper form as shown in these guidelines to Marissa Tanner: mtanner@albany.edu
Abstract Sample

The following sample abstract is typed in TIMES NEW ROMAN – 12 point with one inch margins.

Title: Genetic Transformation of Sweet Potato
Name and address: Jane Einstein
School/city/state: Anywhere High School, Howell, NY 12227
Teacher: Mrs. Georgiana Spallanza
Mentor(s): Mr. Joseph Pascale, Albany Medical College

Scientific discipline: Biological Sciences

Sweet potato is considered the sixth most important food crop in the world and has high nutritional value for humans. However, pests, diseases and environmental factors prevent the crop from reaching its maximum agricultural potential. Improvement of the sweet potato is highly limited by conventional breeding methods. Recombinant DNA technology offers a means for manipulation of the sweet potato genome to integrate valuable traits. Critical parameters of the electroporation (voltage of current and digestion of cell wall) and particle bombardment (helium pressure and gold particle distribution) were examined for efficient DNA transfer. Electroporation resulted in less damage and higher recovery of tissue after DNA delivery compared to particle bombardment. Transformed cells were identified with two marker genes: Beta-glucoronidase (GUS) and Green Florescent Protein (GFP). Cells expressing GFP were easily identified due to uniform protein distribution, and allow the monitoring of the cell development pattern, unlike cells expressing the GUS gene. Using the optimized conditions derived from the present study, sweet potato can be genetically improved for increased crop productivity and nutritional value.
Preparing Your Poster

Posters are graphic representations of completed research and experimentation. Though poster presenters will be required to discuss the contents of their poster, the poster itself should be able to “stand alone” in presenting the experimentation.

The emphasis is on science, not art. Be sure your display is organized and illustrative of your research and experiments. Bulleting information is recommended.

Posters will be placed on Easels.

Prepare a brief (no more than two minutes) oral description of your research for the judge teams (two judges) and be ready to answer their questions.

Once you have presented your findings to the judges, please remain by your poster for an additional 10 – 15 minutes to speak with other symposium attendees.

Specifications

- Posters for JSHS now adhere to the standards of Intel ISEF
- 30 inches (76 centimeters) deep X 48 inches (122 centimeters) wide
- All components of the project must be contained within the poster

Restrictions

The following is not allowed as part your poster competition:

- Literature searches or descriptions of anticipated experiments
- Research apparatus or handouts

Papers

- Submit one copy of your research paper in PDF format (including all 3 certifications) via email to Marissa Tanner (mtanner@albany.edu) within 48 hours of your subregional symposium

Student presenters at the Upstate NY JSHS must register for the entire symposium and stay through the awards ceremony on Tuesday evening. Absence may be authorized only by Upstate NY JSHS Directors.
Dear Finalist:

Congratulations! As a winner of your sub-regional JSHS symposium, you are eligible to compete in the Upstate New York Junior Science and Humanities Symposium to be held March 8 and March 9, 2016 on the campus of the University at Albany. Please carefully review the information below and check off each item in preparation for your poster presentation at the Upstate NY JSHS. It is imperative that you comply with the guidelines exactly.

☐ You and your teacher have confirmed with the sub-regional director of your symposium that your name has been listed on the Roster of Poster Presenters at the 2016 Upstate New York JSHS that the director emails to Marissa Tanner, Coordinator of the Upstate NY JSHS. Only those students listed on the roster will be allowed to present at the Upstate NY JSHS.

☐ You have emailed your abstract in word (.doc) format, and research paper (including certifications) in (pdf) format to Marissa Tanner (mtanner@albany.edu) within 48 hours of your subregional symposium.

Deadline for Easter NY: Feb. 1st
Deadline for WES/ROC NY: Feb. 8th

☐ The abstract complies with the guidelines on the website (www.albany.edu/jshs). If the abstract is late or incomplete – title, name, mentors, etc., or the format deviates from the guidelines – your place will be offered to the alternate in your research category.

☐ Posters for JSHS may adhere to the standards of Intel ISEF: 30 inches (76 centimeters) deep X 48 inches (122 centimeters) wide; 108 inches (274 centimeters) high. Posters will be displayed on easels. They will be grouped by scientific discipline. If your poster does not fit on the easel there will be no tables provided so you will have to set it on the ground where your easel would be.

☐ Poster display includes no external apparatus or equipment.

☐ Your school has registered to participate at the Upstate NY JSHS in Albany.

☐ You registered for the entire symposium. Only presenters who attend the entire symposium are eligible for awards.