

RE: STARS Project

Dear Committee members,

The GENIUS Olympiad is a 4 day-long event to bring science, art, engineering, writing, and policy development projects together to approach the environmental problems. In this first year, we hosted more than 200 students in grades 9-12 with their teachers and parents and representing 142 projects (selected out of 620 projects) from 33 different countries and 30 states only in science and art categories.

Our ultimate goal is to make this the largest fair event of its kind worldwide by expanding it to engineering, creative writing, and policy development categories related to environment and by drawing more than 500 students annually. We will have discussion forums and lectures with all participants, including supervisor about sustainability and environmental issues from several perspectives.

Students have to prepare their projects in their home institutions and apply for the competition via our website. Committee invites 20-30% of the projects to participate in GENIUS Olympiad to present their projects and results. Public is invited to view the projects as well as to discuss their results with the participant students. In addition, there are several educational activities take place, such as keynote speaker, conference, and discussion forums among students.

SUNY Oswego and the Terra Science and Education Foundation are organizing this international event. The purpose of this Olympiad is to engage young minds in a search for solutions to the environmental challenges of today in hopes of achieving a sustainable and clean world for tomorrow.

GENIUS-Olympiad is acting as a forum:

- ✓ to enable successful high school students around the world to cope with environmental problems and elicit their abilities to produce solutions, and exchange their knowledge and ideas
- ✓ to increase awareness of global environmental problems
- ✓ to equip young generations with environment consciousness and to contribute to idea-sharing throughout the world



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