Dear Students:

The CHICO SCIENCE FAIR will be held February 27 - March 2, 2017. Now is the time to be thinking about a science question that you would like to creatively explore. Last year, over 800 curious Chico students investigated some part of our world and entered their projects in this local fair. All received a certificate, ribbon and participation gift. More importantly, they had the satisfaction of knowing that they thoroughly understood their chosen topic.

Design your project and plan to exhibit it, or come and see the Science Fair as a visitor. The fair will be at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds, Commercial Building.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Christine Weston, Rebecca Brunelli, and Jane Quan-Bell

Who is Eligible: Any student in grade K-12, attending a public or private school in the confines of Chico or CUSD. Please check with your teacher or principal on how your school will determine the projects that will enter in to the Chico Science Fair or if it is simply an individual choice of the student. If your school has a preliminary Science Fair, please understand that Chico Science Fair is separate and requires its own application.

How to Enter: Fill out the on-line application at [www.chicosciencefair.org](http://www.chicosciencefair.org).

Individual project entry requires a unique email address except where a teacher or parent wants to register more than one child. In that case, one unique email address can enter as many as 20 students (multiple students in a family or from a class or school).

Group projects may enter with 2 to 4 participants per group. The group will use one unique email for the entire group.

Classroom projects are entered by a teacher with a unique email address.

The **deadline is Monday, February 20, 2017**

NO PROJECT WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT REQUIRED AGREEMENT ON ELECTRONIC WAIVER FORM

For Information, questions: CSF – Chico Science Fair
P.O. Box 6832
Chico, California 95927
Or check Web Site Contacts:
http://www.chicosciencefair.org/contact.htm
chico.science.fair@gmail.com

Project Types and Judging Standards:
Projects entered at the CHICO SCIENCE FAIR will be displayed and judged by grade level. Students may enter a project in any one of the areas below.

**Projects using the Scientific Method with unknown or unpredictable results.** (Problem, Hypothesis, Background Research, Procedure, Results, Conclusion) and **projects with a known result** (replicating an existing experiment) should be evaluated in the following manner. Points are not used in actual judging, but are just given as guidelines.

A. Scientific Method…………………………... 50
   Problem clearly defined
   Hypothesis
   Procedures
   Observations
   Results
   Conclusions
B. Originality…………………………………… 20  
C. Completeness……………………………… 10  
D. Workmanship (Attractiveness)…………… 10  
E. Self Explanatory…………………………… 10  

100 points possible

Projects that are demonstrations such as how a computer works, how a telegraph works, etc.; dissections with labels; models such as electrical circuitry; scientific drawings and displays such as: body systems, parts of an animal, should be evaluated in the following manner:

A. Accuracy ................................................................................ 40  
B. Completeness ........................................................................ 20  
C. Workmanship (Attractiveness)............................................... 20  
D. Scientific Objective ............................................................ 10  
E. Explanatory Narrative ........................................................... 10  

100 points possible

Projects that are collections with identifications such as: bugs, rocks, butterflies, plants, etc. should be evaluated in the following manner

A. Accuracy ................................................................................ 40  
B. Workmanship (Attractiveness)............................................... 30  
C. Self Explanatory ..................................................................... 20  
 (must include background information)  
D. Scientific Objective ............................................................ 10  

100 points possible

Young children will find demonstrations and collections easier to approach. However, they are not limited to these types. Older students will find using the scientific method with unknown results more intriguing and challenging. They are strongly encouraged to consider projects that incorporate the scientific discovery process.

Hints on Preparing Your Science Fair Projects:

1. Start early with your planning.  
2. Check the library science section for ideas. Check web site: http://www.chicosciencefair.org  
   a. Subjects may be taken from any branch of science, including, but not limited to:
      Biology   Electricity   Earth & Space Science  
      Ecology   Physics   Chemistry  
      Geology   Human Body   Agriculture  
      Astronomy   Microbiology   Behavioral & Social Science  
      Botany/Genetics   Zoology/Genetics   Engineering  
      Mathematics/Computers   Consumer Science  
   b. Analyze the possible project ideas—is it a problem-solving (question–asking) project that calls for some investigating? Is it a model or explanation on how something works? Which one of the three areas would the project idea belong?  
   c. Read a lot about your project in order to find out what others have already found out about it.  
3. Think of the steps that will be needed before you start your project and display.  
4. Be sure to give your project a clear title. Describe the steps and the methods you used. Make charts and graphs that show your facts clearly.  
5. Make the title large, clear, and neat. Explanations should be clear and informative.  
6. Design your project to “tell a story.” It should be clearly understandable to the visitor.  
7. If your project is of the investigation type, make sure you clearly state the scientific method as defined earlier in these guidelines.  
8. If the project is a demonstration or a collection, keep in mind that it, too, should have a scientific objective.  
9. Acknowledge all important help.  
10. Any construction should be durable.  
11. Consider a wingboard for displaying your exhibit.  
12. Use of photographs is permissible.
SUGGESTED WINGBOARD FORMAT FOR STUDENT PROJECTS

Size and display is limited to 2 ½ feet deep by 4 feet wide by 6 feet high for grades 7-12 and projects for K-6 must be limited to 36” high unless it is a classroom project.

These are maximum sizes. Exhibitors are encouraged to make projects smaller, if possible.

LOSS or DAMAGE

The CHICO SCIENCE FAIR assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to any project or part thereof. “Do Not Touch” signs will be supplied for each exhibit. Display of valuable or rare items are discouraged (photographs or simulated representations should be substituted in these cases).

Rules for CHICO SCIENCE FAIR:

1. INDIVIDUAL projects are those done by only one student.
2. GROUP projects are those produced by two or more students.
3. CLASSROOM projects are done by the whole class.
4. All exhibits should be of scientific value and should be done by the student with parent supervision only.
5. Size of the display is limited to 2 ½ feet deep by 4 feet wide by 6 feet high for grades 7-12 and classroom projects. Grade K-6 must be limited to 36” high unless total classroom project.
6. Information to accompany each exhibit:
   a. For K-6 student, a brief explanation of the project, procedure, and data.
   b. For students in grades 7-12, a more comprehensive explanation.
7. Dangerous chemicals, open flames, explosives, poisonous reptiles, starvation and pain causing experiments on animals will not be allowed.
8. The use of vertebrae animals in projects is permitted for observations, but not for experimentation.
9. Live animal displays are not allowed (substitute photographs or a model in exhibit).
10. Projects utilizing human subjects must insure the subjects are free from potential physical and psychological risks.
11. Exhibitors are responsible for the care of plants in their exhibits.
12. Electric power (110 volt AC) is available, but exhibitor must indicate this need on the application form. Exhibitor will also need to furnish his/her own extension cord(s).
13. Exhibits must be well constructed and capable of standing alone.
RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN PARTICIPANTS:

Carefully think about your project and consider what you will ask participants to do. You want to be sure that everyone who participates in your project is protected from physical and mental discomfort and harm. A good question to ask yourself is, “How would I feel if I were participating in this activity?”

Be courteous and respectful to those who participate in your project. Remember that each individual is helping you by participating in your project. Respect a person’s freedom to decline to participate. Do not force anyone to be part of your project against their wish.

FAIR SCHEDULE

Check in and Set up Projects: Silver Dollar Fairgrounds, Commercial Building (Back Entrance)
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27  12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Judging, closed to public
TUESDAY, February 28  CLOSED TO PUBLIC

Open to public, (including field trips by schools)
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1  10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. – 8 p.m.
THURSDAY, MARCH 2  10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. – 8 p.m.

AWARDS Ceremony
THURSDAY Evening, MARCH 2  6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Projects may be removed
THURSDAY Evening, MARCH 2  7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Pick up remaining projects
FRIDAY, MARCH 3  8 am. – 10 a.m.

PROJECTS MAY NOT BE REMOVED UNTIL DESIGNATED TIME. THE CHICO SCIENCE FAIR SPONSORS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY EXHIBIT AFTER 10:00 A.M., FRIDAY, MARCH 3.

Sponsored by:

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Butte Creek Foundation
Gateway Science Museum
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds
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California Water Service Company
Chico Unified School District
Ron Roth and Alma Hayes
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Azad’s Martial Arts Center
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Chico Nut Company
Corporon Law Office, J. Scott Corporon & Josie Porras
Maureen Kirk for Supervisor
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