



**DR. NELSON YING
TRI REGION SCIENCE
AND ENGINEERING FAIR**

Ying TRSEF Junior Research Students

Fair Day Information

The Ying TRSEF is March 20-21 at Onondaga Community College (OCC), Syracuse.
Download updated schedules from www.trsef.org.

- ✓ Adult sponsor online registration
 - ✓ Student online registration
 - ✓ Adult checklist, complete with adult signatures
 - ✓ Registration fee - \$15 / student
1. Your Adult Sponsor (the parent or teacher who completes the adult registration and lists your name) must register online. Add that person's name to your form as you register online. **We accept your registration only when your sponsor's online registration is received.**
 2. Register online at www.trsef.org.
 3. Print off the Adult Checklist (link at Student page www.trsef.org). Secure all the required signatures. The second page of the Adult Checklist includes the Waiver and Media Release. Parents must sign the Waiver. If they do not wish to have your photo taken, there are specific directions on the form for how to inform the Ying TRSEF.
 4. Mail the Adult Checklist with your registration check for \$15/student made out to "YING TRSEF" to: Ying TRSEF 604 Walberta Road Syracuse, NY 13219

Feel free to [contact the Ying TRSEF](mailto:trsef@verizon.net) if you have questions concerning this process.

Project Safety and Paperwork

Junior Level Project Pre-Approval Information

Your safety and that of your subjects depend upon careful supervision by capable adults. All procedures should be carefully reviewed by your advisor, whether a parent or teacher. That means your project must have a research plan and a set of procedures BEFORE you start experimenting. This is the only way to be confident about your safety and that of others.

If your project involves any of the following, you must have approval by a Scientific Review Committee BEFORE starting your experiment and additional forms are required:

- subjects, including surveys
- human vertebrate animals
- controlled substances, recombinant DNA
- and/or animal tissue
- substances

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Additional Paperwork for Junior Level students with projects involving the above:

1. Project Plan (experimental procedure)
2. Surveys, if applicable
3. Written parental permission of any human subjects under age 18

Submit your completed Adult Checklist to your school's Scientific Review Committee (SRC). Don't have those? Don't panic; it is quite easy for your school to set up a Scientific Review Committee of its own. Again, a Scientific Review Committee approves your plan, the advisors and how you will deal with the safety issues. Contact Ms. Bobbi Alcock, the chair of our Scientific Review Committee with any questions you might have. trsefsrc@verizon.net or phone 315-468-1025.

Doing My Project

Use the links on the Ying TRSEF's website from the "How do I do a science fair project?" page, and the quick overview in a PDF.

Exhibit Requirements

1. Space is limited to 48 in. wide by 30 in. deep by 72 in. tall (from tabletop). Extra space is not available. Photos should be taken of any equipment that cannot fit in this space.
2. Exhibit Card (in the packet you receive at Check-In) must be displayed near the top right of your project board.
3. Absolutely NO:
 - animals (alive or dead), animal parts or fluids
 - hazardous substances
 - chemicals stronger than household grade
 - fire, flames or hot plates
 - flammable substances such as gas or kerosene
 - firearms or weaponry
 - unsafe electrical connections
4. "Non-toxic" bacteria/cultures need to be in a fully sealed petri dish.
5. Names of human subjects must not appear anywhere on your project or in your report.
6. Any photographs need to be labeled with the name of the photographer. Any other borrowed images (Web, magazine, etc.) need to be labeled with their source.
7. LABEL EVERYTHING WITH YOUR NAME in case it is lost or misplaced.
8. If your exhibit requires electricity and you did not indicate so in your online registration, you must contact [the TRSEF](#) by March 12th. YOU will bring an extension cord at least 20 feet long to the fair.
9. You must get approval by the Science Review Committee/Display and Safety Committee before judging begins. The exhibit cannot be changed once approval is given. **Failure to have SRC/D&S approval will disqualify you from the science fair.**

Check-In & Set-Up

ALL Research Students set up Saturday afternoon after the Ying Scholar Finals.

At check-in, you will pick up your student packet – your name tag, Junior Level exhibitor pin, exhibit card, space assignment, judging labels and registration paperwork. **Wear your nametag and pin**

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throughout the weekend. If you are part of a team, the exhibit card, judging labels and paperwork will be in one team member's exhibitor packet.

When you have set up, you may go back to Whitney for special activities there. Our traditional pizza party will be in Whitney at 5:00; after the pizza party, people leave OCC and head to their housing.

Junior Level Display & Safety Review

All Junior Level (grades 5-8) student exhibits are reviewed by the Display & Safety (D&S) Committee once the exhibit is completely set up on Saturday afternoon. The D&S Committee will provide you with a sticker for your exhibit card after its review. The exhibit cannot be changed in *any* way after approval. All students must be present at their exhibit during the D&S review in case of questions or needed changes.

Fair Day Lunch/Afternoon Snack

Bring your lunch to the fair; do NOT plan to have someone bring it in later. You will NOT be permitted to leave your assigned space, and you must be at your poster at the start of Judging. You can take a bathroom break, but you still cannot get anything from outside the secured Exhibit Space – and *no one* will be permitted to come in. Snacks will be available for purchase on site before judging begins. **You will be provided with a snack and cool water during judging**, but if you have dietary restrictions, please bring appropriate food.

Judging

Judging will begin on time. You must be at your exhibit and all parents, teachers, friends and family who are not judges must leave the Exhibit Space for the entire judging period. You will not leave the Exhibit Space during judging unless it is an emergency, or during your break to use the restrooms.

During the judging period, you will meet with at least four Ying TRSEF Fair Judges, and any Special Awards judges whose awards are compatible with your project. Please stand through all conversations with judges. Greet the judges, shake their hands or do whatever else you need to do to feel connected to the judge and less nervous. Typically, you will spend about 10-15 minutes with each judge. Be prepared to talk about your research first – how and why you chose your topic, your review of the literature, your experimentation and your results.

HINT: Practicing your talk in advance with adults with whom you are comfortable will help you improve your oral presentation.

- ✓ The judge will start a question-and-answer conversation with you.
- ✓ Feel free to ask the judge to clarify any question you do not understand.
- ✓ Each Fair Judge will give you a sticker that goes on your exhibit card. **If you think a TRSEF judge has not judged you, please contact a TRSEF official before break.**
- ✓ You give each Special Awards Judge a Judge Label from your exhibitor packet.

There will be "down time" during judging; bring a book, headset, etc. However, the Ying TRSEF is NOT responsible for anything you bring to the fair. Chairs are permitted, and many students relax and sit on the floor, but if you are able, **stand for all judges**. You may have snacks and beverages at your exhibit. If you need to leave your exhibit at any time during judging, please leave a note for the judges.

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Public Viewing

The Ying TRSEF opens the exhibit hall to the public for “Public Viewing and Celebration of Achievements from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Please be at your exhibit during this time. This is your chance to discuss your research with interested members of the community, including other students like yourself. This is also the best opportunity for families and schools to take photos and videos.

Awards

The goal of taking part in a science fair is the satisfaction of investigating and discovering new things – even if it’s only new to you. The success of a science fair project is not measured by the awards received. All participants receive a Certificate of Participation in their registration packet.

Awards Ceremony

Participants will go to OCC’s Storer Auditorium for the guest speaker and the Awards Ceremony. Please sit in the reserved student sections during the Awards Ceremony.

The Awards Ceremony begins with TRSEF Poster Commendations. Then Research Students are called forward for Honors, High Honors and Highest Honors. Next, Special Awards are given by organizations, businesses, colleges and universities. Eighth-grade students will then officially cross over from Junior to Senior Level.

The Awards Ceremony concludes with the announcement of the Discovery Education 3M Young Scientists for the Junior Level and the ISEF Finalists for the Senior Level.

If in an emergency, you must leave before the conclusion of the Awards Ceremony, sign out of the Fair at the Information Booth in the lobby so any awards can be sent to you at your school.

Schedule

Be sure to access the updated calendar at www.trsef.org.

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