



**LOS ANGELES SECTION  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
IN CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT**  
P.O. BOX 712352, LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-7352

April 19, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

The 61<sup>th</sup> Los Angeles County Science and Engineering fair was a spectacular event and perhaps one of the best ever. It was concluded on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011 with the Awards Ceremony at the Pasadena Convention Center Auditorium before an elated crowd of proud parents and science professionals.

Over 1,000 students from nearly 200 Los Angeles County schools participated in this oldest and longest running regional science fair in the Western United States to compete in 38 different areas of study ranging from Physics to Materials Science, Mathematics and Engineering Research, in both Junior and Senior Division.

The student selection criteria to participate is based strictly on merit and qualifications. Los Angeles County has the most diverse and largest student population in the nation and has nearly one-third of all students in the State. The students who actually qualify for participation at the science fair are simply the best and the brightest and the competition between them is very impressive.

25 state engineers were among the nearly 300 volunteers from the educational community, business, public and private sector who served as student judges to review, score and select the finalist for the awards. Volunteers had to attend an instructional workshop on judging and then evaluated projects on-site during the event. Projects were judged on creativity, scientific thought, thoroughness, skill, clarity and presentation.

Since 2009 PECG has established two special awards at the Los Angeles County Science Fair, in recognition of the former Caltrans Engineers, James E. Roberts and Marilyn Jorgensen Reece. The special awards winners this year were selected by a Caltrans team of 8 special awards judges who had to score each student separately. Their scores were added-up and the winners were determined by the highest score given to several dozens of student finalists. The student judges then unanimously selected the winners this year as follows:

<b>Hao Sun</b> , Won the James E. Roberts Award (\$1,000) Grade 11, School: Ribet Academy (Private/Parochial) Category: Engineering Applications (Junior Division) Project Title: "Testing Efficiency of Bridges"	<b>April King</b> , Won the Marilyn J. Reece Award \$1,000 Grade 12, School: Int. Polytechnic High School PAU Category: Engineering Research (Senior Division) Project Title: "Bridge Extension"
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Another 19 student finalists (please see attachment) who were judged by our team of special awards judges received **Honorable Mentions** and **medals** and some \$500 total worth of **gift certificates** from Target stores.

A new photo album with pictures covering the 2011 LA County Science Fair activities, student projects and awards will soon be available for viewing on the LA Section website at [www.lapecg.net](http://www.lapecg.net).

The fair was a big success and received good media coverage. The contribution of the State Engineers was much appreciated. The kids were elated, inspired, motivated and happy because the fair made a difference in their lives and future aspirations, thanks to you!

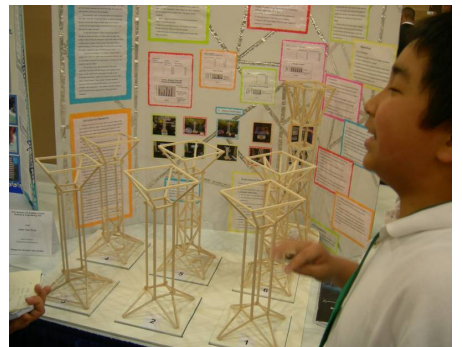
Sincerely,

*John Vassiliades*

John M. Vassiliades, PE  
President Elect, Los Angeles Section

*Sutida Bergquist*

Sutida Bergquist, PE  
Director, Los Angeles Section



**61<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR**

**(STUDENT JUDGES: John Vassiliades, Sutida Bergquist, Reza Jahromi, John Lee, Lily Chang, Nestor Valenton, Eddie Isaacs, Bahar Bakhtar, Shahriar Yadegari, John Zaki, Jerry Wahl, Ann Marie Rametta, Joseph Kibe, Dapo Majekondunmi, Maria Rodriguez, Rania Wassily, Jose Cuaresma, Sam Alameddine, Lenin Orozco, Ibrahim Yaghnam, Natalie Hill, John Njoroge, Gloria Gwynne, Newton Wong, Deborah Robertson)**

**SPECIAL AWARDS WINNERS**

**HAO SUN, GR 11 – JAMES E. ROBERTS AWARD (\$1,000)  
APRIL KING, GR 12 – MARILYN J. REECE AWARD (\$1,000)**

**HONORABLE MENTION WINNERS**

**CHRISTINA MARELLI, GR 8, MIRALESTE INTER. H.S., R.P.V  
ARYAN GHAZI, GR 6, AL HUDA ISLAMIC SCHOOL  
JOHN CARL CRUZ, GR 7, MONROE, ALBERT MIDDLE SCHOOL  
CARMEN CABRAL, GR 7, SAINT MEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
YOTAM HAYUSH, GR 8, ALFRED NOBEL MID SC., NORTHRIDGE  
KASSANDRA CANALITA, GR 7, NATIVITY CATHOLIC ELEM. SC.  
TALISH BABAIAN, GR 7, CHAMLIAN ARMENIAN SCHOOL  
JOSELYN WOO, GR 8, PORTOLA GASPAR DE HIGHLY GIFTED  
GILLIAN HIGA, GR 8, MIRALESTE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
ANTHONY STUART, GR 8, RICHARD HENRY ELEMENTARY  
BREANN GARCIA, GR 7, HOLY NAME OF MARY SCHOOL  
BRANDON OAKLEY, GR 7, ICEF SCHOOL, INGLEWOOD  
KATHERINE IRAJAPANAH, GR 8, ST TIMOTHY SCHOOL  
MIKAYLA MELENDEZ, GR 6, CHIME CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL  
JIMENNA SANCHEZ, GR 8, LYNWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL  
AMANDA ARST, GR 8, MAGNOLIA SCIENCE ACADEMY  
CARMEN MICHLOVICH, GR 6, ST. ANASTASIA ELEM. SCHOOL  
DANIELBASANY, GR 8, DANA, RICHARD HENRY ELEM. SCHOOL  
EMILY SIM, GR 8, MUIR JOHN MIDDLE SCHOOL, BURBANK**

**SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**TO CALTRANS DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR, MICHAEL MILES AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, DEBORAH ROBERTSON FOR THEIR INSPIRATIONAL REMARKS WHILE PREPARING OUR STUDENT JUDGES AND FOR THEIR UNYIELDING SUPPORT TO THE OVERALL EFFORT**

**HELPING OUR YOUNG STUDENTS EXCEL IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING EDUCATION THROUGH THE ANNUAL LOS ANGELES COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR COMPETITION**