

POBJFKHS Research Student Gets Top Honors at ISEF *Elif Koch Earns 4th Place Grand Award at Prestigious Competition*

PLAINVIEW, NEW YORK (June 2023)—Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School research student Elif Koch earned the 4th Place Grand Award in her category at the 2023 Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Dallas, Texas. This prestigious contest saw Elif compete against 1,600 young scientists representing 49 states and 64 countries from across the world.

Elif was recognized for her project, *Impacts of Levodopa and Traditional Medicines on the Locomotion of Alpha-Synuclein Caenorhabditis elegans*, in the behavioral and social sciences category. Her research looks into the efficacy of medicines used to treat Parkinson's disease. Her 4th place finish earned her a \$500 prize.

Elif arrived at ISEF after strong showings at the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair, the New York State Science and Engineering Fair and the Long Island Junior Science and Humanities Symposium. In addition to earning a Grand Award at ISEF, Elif also earned the Central Intelligence Agency 2nd Place Special Award. Elif's research was overseen by advisor Mr. Raymond Tesar.

For more information about the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District, please visit the District's website at www.pobschools.org. Exciting activities happening throughout the District and programs celebrating student achievement can also be found on the District's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pobschools/>.



Elif Koch at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair with her project, Impacts of Levodopa and Traditional Medicines on the Locomotion of Alpha-Synuclein Caenorhabditis elegans.