

Five POBJFK Research Students achieve success at the Long Island Junior Science and Humanities Symposium

Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School is proud to announce that five research students were named semifinalists at the regional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS). JSHS is a Tri-Service sponsored STEM competition, meaning the competition is managed by the U.S. Army, Navy and, Air Force. The symposium aims to promote original research and experimentation in the sciences at the high school level and publicly recognizes students for outstanding achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Seniors Syon Khatteer, Sari Bernstein, Benjamin Selip, Yoav Muscal, and junior Parshwa Shah were chosen to present a 12-minute presentation before a panel of judges and an audience of their peers based on the excellence of their submitted research papers. Each paper was reviewed and evaluated by college faculty, practicing scientists and engineers in the various scientific domains.

The five semifinalists are striving to become regional finalists and will represent Long Island in the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force sponsored annual National JSHS on May 1-4, 2024, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. They will present their work to the research arm of the Department of Defense, engage with DoD researchers and laboratories, and speak with related STEM organizations and professionals.

“I couldn’t think of five more deserving young scientists to be granted this prestigious award,” POBJFK Lead Research Coordinator Mr. Raymond Tesar said. “All five students continue to strive to make the world a better place through their scientific discoveries. Additionally, it represents the entire POBJFK Research Program well to be recognized for excellence in such a wide array of scientific topics from the various fields of STEM.”

The project categories and titles of the semifinalists are below:

Sari Bernstein (Life and Behavioral Sciences): Interaction with School Shooting Media as a Predictor of Secondary Trauma in Educators.

Syon Khatteer (Life and Behavioral Sciences): Investigating Impacts of Sucralose on Hedonic Feeding Behaviors in *C. elegans* as a Model for Prevention and Treatment of Obesity and Eating Disorders

Yoav Muscal (Environmental Sciences): Using Machine Learning Species Distribution Modeling as a Novel Approach to Efficiently Predict Forest Development Suitability

Benjamin Selip (Biomedical Sciences): The Temporal Expression of SCPN-related Genes in Subcerebral Projection Neurons in Development

Parshwa Shah (Medicine and Health): MagMorse: An Intelligent Information Morse Code Communication System Using Magnetometers & Python for Motor Neuron Disease Patients



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