



Waterloo-Wellington Science & Engineering Fair 2020 Annual Report

The Covid-19 pandemic obliged us to cancel the 2020 WWSEF.

Almost immediately Youth Science Canada cancelled the Canada-Wide Science Fair planned for Edmonton. By then some regions had already conducted their local fairs, and elsewhere many young researchers had completed their projects and were getting their displays ready.

And then...

Youth Science Canada created a virtual fair so that the enthusiastic youth had a venue to show their projects and have them reviewed. WWSEF alerted our teachers as best we could and mustered a panel to evaluate projects from our region. Those that were outstanding were also judged by a national team. Only virtual ribbons were presented.

Looking Ahead

Youth Science Canada is now preparing for a virtual CWSF in May, so we are planning for a virtual WWSEF in April. It will be as close to our usual fair as possible. Our exhibitors will prepare several 'pages' similar to usual project displays and complete a normal Written Summary. We will then assign judges to them (2 at a time) and schedule multiple live interviews. Hence, we can maintain our current awards structure with confidence and select our best for the virtual Canada-Wide Science Fair.

Almost all of the contributors and donors for our 2020 WWSEF allowed us to retain their support for 2021. Thank you. That has allowed us to focus on providing opportunities for young researchers. We still had base expenses in 2020, including affiliation, insurance, audit, publicity, and now have on hand program supplies & awards medallions for 2021. In addition we just had our bus payment refunded and now have a credit with Youth Science Canada for future CWSF's. The pie charts on page 4 provide a glimpse of our finances.

Looking Back

Last year the Rotary Club of Guelph celebrated its 100th year of community support. The club has been a major supporter of WWSEF since our inception in 1974. We were fortunate to be given an extra contribution to do something special. We decided to track down former exhibitors to see where they were now. Funds from the Rotary Club of Guelph were used to purchase handsome display boards so we could show everyone at WWSEF – youth, parents, teachers and judges – that what we do has long-lasting benefits. But we won't be able to show the display until we return to an in-person Fair, hopefully in April 2022. In lieu of reporting on our young researchers at CWSF in this year's report, turn the page to see some of what we've done, together.

Visit us on the web at
www.wwsef.ca



Youth Science Canada
Sciences jeunesse Canada

WWSEF is affiliated with Youth Science Canada

WWSEF

Alumni Spotlight



Paul Benedetti

WWSEF: 1981, 1982, 1985

CWSF: 1981, 1982, 1985

Status 2020: Worldwide Business Services Manager at Hewlett Packard

Paul says: "I guess you could say that Science brought me all the good things in my life! I have kept contact with Science Fairs & was a judge at the Canada-Wide Science Fair in 2011. I also enjoy volunteering locally."

Stephanie Chan

WWSEF: 2007, 2009, 2011

CWSF: 2009, 2011

Status 2020: Internal Medicine resident in Kingston

Stephanie says: "The extracurricular STEM activities that shaped my high school experience all started with participating in WWSEF, and the science fair projects I did back then helped to spark an interest in research which continues to this day."



Zach Elgood

WWSEF & CWSF: 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011

ISWEEEP: 2010

Status 2020: Study of alpha-corrections to the entropy of black holes in superstring theory at Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain

Zach says: "My science fair experience has greatly helped me develop my ability to conduct scientific research, as well as build various connections which were very helpful for future endeavors."

Eddie Kim

WWSEF & CWSF: 2006, 2007, 2009

MILSET Tunisia: 2009

Status 2020: Senior Data Scientist at Citrine Informatics (California)

Eddie says: "Science Fairs have served, above all, as a venue for dreaming about big solutions to big problems and then for finding friends who, like you, want to turn these dreams into realities."





Bryan Krug

WWSEF: 2007, 2009, 2010

CWSF: 2007, 2009

ISEF: 2010

Sanofi BioGENEious Challenge: 2010

Status 2020: PhD student, McGill, Department of Human Genetics

Bryan says: "I've felt privileged to have the training from these experiences in my grad school research."

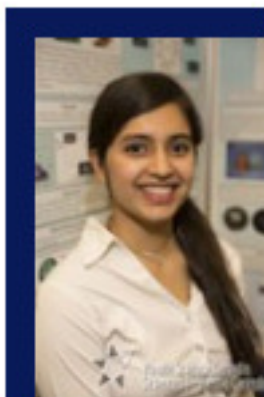
Susie Pan

WWSEF & CWSF: 2009

Sanofi BioGENEious Challenge: 2009, 2010

Status 2020: First Product Lead at Borealis AI, RBC Institute for Research, looking at how we implement cutting-edge AI to financial services

Susie says: "Science Fair was the reason I co-founded Science Expo, which empowered more than 50,000 students to pursue STEM opportunities. It was where I met my co-founders who have also become lifelong friends."



Devanshi Shukla

WWSEF & CWSF: 2014, 2015, 2016

Status 2020: Doing an Honours Thesis in Microbiology and Immunology, characterizing a mutation that potentially leads to leukemia.

Devanshi says: "Science Fair gave me the initial inspiration to pursue research and introduced me to a community of bright students that I have made lifelong connections with."

Vivienne Tam

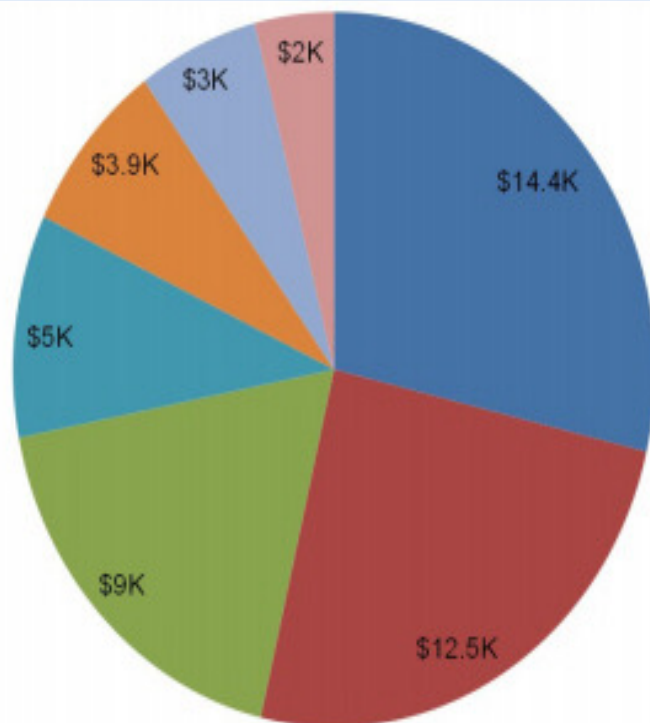
WWSEF & ISEF: 2011

Status 2020: Working on a PhD in Materials Engineering at McGill University which involves looking at light-controlled release of chemotherapeutics for brain cancer.

Vivienne says: "My curiosity and love for science definitely sparked from the early introduction I got to scientific inquiry and discussion at high school fairs like WWSEF. It helped me see that I not only had interesting ideas but I could make those ideas a reality in the lab!"

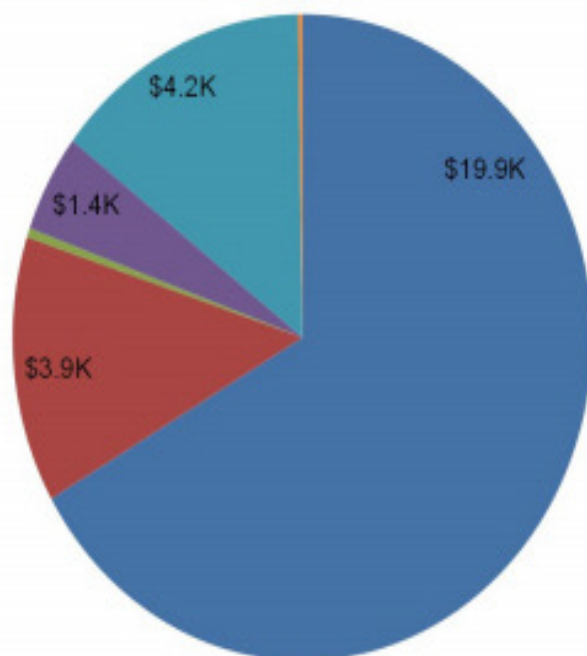


2020 Financials



Revenue

- Universities & College
- Individuals
- Corporations
- Science Fair Registration
- Federations, Assoc., Foundations
- Miscellaneous
- Service Clubs
- Area School Boards



Expenses

- Canada-Wide Science Fair
- Science Fair Day
- Hospitality
- Awards/Prizes
- Finances/General Admin
- Publicity/Public Relations