

## **Rhoades School Students Excel at County Science Fair**

All of the Grade 7 and 8 students from The Rhoades School qualified to compete at the 2020 Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair. Our 47 students earned 30 First Place Awards, 13 Second Place Awards, and four Third Place Awards. The students also received two Grand Awards, 60 Professional Society Awards, 24 State Nominations, and 18 National Nominations.

### **Broadcom MASTERS Nominations**

Eighteen of our seventh and eighth graders were Broadcom MASTERS Nationally Nominated which means these students are eligible to submit their projects to the national contest. The National Nominees from Grade 8 are Bhadra Rupesh, Leia Ryan, Adam Esch, Grace Millikin, Willa Norvell, Mehar Thaper, Jamie Weston, Leila Elasaad, Tom Bamford, Ashur Taylor, Zara Bannister and Anusha Chatha. Grade 7 students are Tejas Ravi, Rohan Keswani, Elias Samady, Grace Howard, Taylor Belanich, and Lily Masi.

### **State Nominations**

State Nominations were awarded to 24 of our 47 students. This was quite an impressive accomplishment. The eighth graders earning State Nominations were Bhadra Rupesh, Leia Ryan, Adam Esch, Grace Millikin, Willa Norvell, Mehar Thaper, Jamie Weston, Leila Elasaad, Tom Bamford, Ashur Taylor, Zara Bannister, Anusha Chatha, Krishna Nagarajan, James Blue, Neelan Patel, Cameron Do and Kai Goodsell. In seventh grade Tejas Ravi, Rohan Keswani, Elias Samady, Grace Howard, Taylor Belanich, Lily Masi and Jonah Berman earned State Nominations.

### **Student Awards**

Thirty students received **First Place Awards**. These students were eighth graders Bhadra Rupesh, Leia Ryan, Adam Esch, Grace Millikin, Willa Norvell, Mehar Thaper, Jamie Weston, Leila Elasaad, Tom Bamford, Ashur Taylor, Zara Bannister, Anusha Chatha, Krishna Nagarajan, James Blue, Neelan Patel, Cameron Do, Kai Goodsell, Mele Barton, Arjun Chatha, David Samy and Isabel Lehmann, and seventh graders Tejas Ravi, Rohan Keswani, Elias Samady, Grace Howard, Taylor Belanich, Lily Masi, Jonah Berman, Jake Streitman and Sawyer Benedict.

Thirteen students received **Second Place Awards**. In eighth grade these students were Sameer Goswami, Kelly Bordine, Kait Podlich, Levi Katriel, Wesley Nesbitt, Carter Halenza, Maddox Brandenburg, Luke Palmer, Trey Telfer, Noa Burrows and Abigail Shaul, and in seventh grade Audrey Link and Divya Sharma.

Four students received **Third Place Awards**, eighth graders Griffin Cappiello and Sania Dogra and seventh graders Koe Goodsell and Logan Benintend.

### **Professional Society Awards**

Our students also earned 60 Professional Society Awards. These are special recognition honors presented by a host of associations from throughout San Diego County, such as San Diego Zoo Global, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA), the San Diego

Astronomy Association, Mensa, the San Diego Water Authority, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). It is difficult to earn even one Professional Society Award, and many Rhoades School students won multiple awards.

Earning a remarkable four Professional Society Awards each for their science fair projects were seventh grader Tejas Ravi and eighth graders Mele Barton, Arjun Chatha and David Samy. Seventh graders Rohan Keswani, Elias Samady, Jake Streitman and Sawyer Benedict each earned an impressive three Professional Society Awards. The following students each received awards from two Professional Societies: eighth graders Leia Ryan, Leila Elasaad, Cameron Do, Wesley Nesbitt, Kait Podlich and Kelly Bordine, and seventh graders Grace Howard, Taylor Belanich and Lily Masi. Other students earning special recognition through a Professional Society Award were eighth graders Bhadra Rupesh, Mehar Thaper, Jamie Weston, Adam Esch, Grace Millikin, Willa Norvell, Anusha Chatha, Kai Goodsell, Levi Katriel and Griffin Cappiello, and seventh graders Divya Sharma, Audrey Link, Koe Goodsell and Logan Benintend.