



For more information contact:

Ingrid Weigand

512-994-4783

Ingrid.weigand@austinscience.org

For immediate release (Kill date 2/20/24)

Date: 1.9.24

It started here!

(And, with your help it can continue.)

(Austin, TX) Since 1956 a version of The Greater Austin Regional Science and Engineering Fair has provided the inspiration, the guidance, and the support to build the robust STEM community we all enjoy in the Austin area. This year's fair takes place February 21st – 24th at the Palmer Events Center.

Many of the world's leaders in the fields of science and engineering began their journeys to curing disease, providing alternative energy sources, and making our world a better place to live, by experiencing a science fair. And, the GARSEF, has a big role in providing these heroes. Some examples of our participants include:

The top winner of our 1956 inaugural fair became the Director of the Crosbyton Solar Power Project of Texas Tech University, which built the largest single mirror solar collector in history and made the nation's first commercial electric power from solar steam.

A 2012 Best of Fair winner received a degree in Geomicrobiology from Rutgers University and was awarded a full-time ISS Research Integration Internship at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

A 2015 Best of Fair winner graduated summa com laude from Northwestern University and conducted the baseline census of North America's first experimental forest.

After 20 years of being supported by Austin Energy, GARSEF is now self-funding and needs your help. Your support of GARSEF will create the resources for more of our winners to go to their rightful place at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair this year. This support will feed the future of STEM, and the welfare of our world.

To find out how you can help with funding, volunteering, or mentoring please go to:

[GARSEF Home](#).

END

GARSEF (or the Greater Austin Regional Science and Engineering Fair) is one of Texas' largest regional science fairs with almost 3,000 students from 3rd through 12th grade. It encourages and rewards innovative student research and provides scientists, engineers and other professionals a chance to volunteer in the community.

Winning Junior/Senior Division projects advance to the [Texas Science and Engineering Fair](#). Best of Fair Senior Division projects advance directly to the [Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair](#).