



Department of Physics & Astronomy
Center for Science Education
College of Arts and Sciences

September 24, 2020

Ref: **2021 DOD Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS) for South Carolina**

Dear Superintendent / Principal and/or Science Coordinator/ Teacher:

The USC Department of Physics and the Center for Science Education at the University of South Carolina in Columbia is very pleased to invite you and your students to take part in the **2021 DOD SC Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS)**. The symposium will take place at the Russell House on the USC Columbia campus on a Friday in **January 2021**. The symposium will consist mainly research presentations by high school students.

Your students can take part in one of two ways:

1) **Observer: You** and three or four of your students are welcome to attend the symposium free of charge. We will provide a continental breakfast and lunch. We will also provide dinner and overnight accommodations, (more than 121 km {75 miles} from Columbia) if needed, on the Thursday prior to the symposium at a hotel near the campus. ***The number of observers is limited.***

2) **Presenter Face to Face:** One or more of your students can submit a written paper describing his or her original research in an area of science or humanities. These presentations are often based on work students have done in school research projects, for science fairs, or for other research presentations. A panel of USC faculty members, Industry Scientists, and Government Scientists will consider these written papers and the top five will be selected for presentation in competition at the full symposium. The symposium presentations will be judged by another committee of scientists and by everyone who attends the symposium. We will pick the top five papers and of these five the top three presenters will win scholarships. All five will have their expenses paid to attend **the face to face National JSHS Meeting in in the spring of 2021**. All others who submit a paper will have the opportunity to present that paper in a series of concurrent small symposia. Prizes and/or Honors Certificates will be given for the best presentations in each concurrent symposium.

The plan is to have a face to face JSHS, if we need to go virtual, all schools will be notified.

If you and your students would like to take part in the symposium, please fill out the Intent to Participate form and return it (by email) by **November 6, 2020**. When we receive your form, we will send you more specific information about the symposium. The deadline for the submission of research papers is Friday, **December 4, 2021**. (**Note: Only completed research will be accepted**)

Attendance at the symposium is limited, so please respond as quickly as you can. Contact Timir Datta (email: datti@sc.edu) by phone (803 777 8105) if you have any questions. The symposium is supported by funds from the Department of Defense and is free to all participants. Don Jordan is the Assistant Director for 2021.

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