

2026 Miami County Science Day Results

On Thursday, February 12, 2026, the 12th Annual Miami County Science Day was held at Tippecanoe High School for students in grades 5-12. This event offered students a venue that promotes the development of creative thinking, research and writing skills and career motivation toward the sciences, all in one program. Eighty-three students from Tipp City, Miami East, Covington, Piqua, Milton-Union and the Upper Valley Career Center, completed and exhibited projects in animal Science, plant science, chemistry, environmental sciences, computers, microbiology, energy, physics, engineering, mathematics, medicine & health and behavioral & social sciences.

The sixty-three students receiving “Superior” ratings were: from Covington MS: Ella Collins, Kennedy Shively, Zella Nickol, Dallas Skaggs, Eden Pellman, Rylynn Palser, Kendall Peters, Kyle Hart, Khloe Yowler; from Miami East HS: Kara Hale; from Miami East JHS: Cydney Huelsman, Sawyer Bates, Anderson White, Asher Vonderembse, Lilly Nation, Tilly Hill, Elizabeth Iames, Jackson Gray, Julia Iames, Lily Francis, Emma Bodenmiller; from Milton-Union HS: Finn Hinkelman; from Piqua HS: Katie Jo Beasley, Tristyn Frazier; from Tippecanoe HS: Joshitha Kondapalli, Jaxen Anderson; from Tippecanoe MS: Bailey Aston, Maximilian Leshner, Ujval Kondapalli, Emily Riehle, Adhwaith Ega, Myles Osborne, Jackson Normile, Corinne Outten, Carson Beal, Tyson Jacobs; from L. T. Ball Intermediate – Tipp City: Anna Carroll, Titus Hoffman, Clark McGinnis, Aisha Nair, Nicole Toon, Graham Dunlap, Joanna Harney, Larkin Hahn, Lucas Rickey; from Upper Valley Career Center: Emalyn Johnson, Taylor Schmitmeyer, Jackson Callison, Braelin Browning, Jackson Beaman, Madison Schulte, Dominik Goetze, Rhiann Otis, Jaydon Arrington, Alivia Meyer, Tessa Curl, Zoey Studebaker, Marley Watterson, Addison Haddix, Alexis Ater. These students are eligible to go to the Upper Miami Valley Regional Science Day held at Edison State Community College on March 14th.

Thirty area teachers, professionals and community members volunteered to judge the projects. Event sponsors donated awards and gift certificates in an amount totaling \$3,400, plus additional event sponsorships. Sponsors included Tipp City Rotary Club, Cargill, Premier Health – UVMC, Abbott Nutrition, Tipp Monroe Optimists Club, Tippecanoe Masonic Lodge No. 174, Lightle Family Science Fund, North Star BlueScope Steel, James McGarry, Miami County Soil & Water Conservation District, John A. Smith Memorial Fund, Royal Crest Insurance, Hickory River Smokehouse, the McMurry Family, Dave Werts, Georgia Bayman, David Shepherd, the Chaney family, the Wahl family, the Sebastian Family, the McNerney family, Martin E. English, DVM and the event host Tippecanoe High School.

Grand Prize Awards for Top Projects Overall sponsored by Dave Werts & Georgia Bayman went to in 1st place (\$100) Kara Hale, Miami East HS; 2nd place (\$100) to Emalyn Johnson, UVCC and 3rd place (\$100) to Joshitha Kondapalli, Tippecanoe HS.

2026 Science Day Project Topic Categories Awards – Winners: Troy Fish & Game Award in Animal Science (\$100) Elizabeth Iames, Miami East JHS; Royal Crest Insurance Award in Animal Science (\$100) Emily Riehle, Tipp MS; Garmann Miller Award in Behavioral Science 1st (\$100) Katie Jo Beasley, Piqua HS; Royal Crest Insurance Award in Behavioral Science (\$100) Kara Hale, Miami East HS; Shepherd Award in Chemistry 1st (\$100) Cydney Huelsman, Miami East JHS; Troy Fish & Game Award in Chemistry (\$50) Braelin Browning,

Upper Valley CC; James McGarry Awards in Energy (\$100) Jesse Limbach, Tipp MS; Troy Fish & Game Award in Energy (\$50) Evan Adkins, THS; James McGarry Award in Environmental Science (\$100) Jaxen Anderson, Tipp HS; Miami County Soil & Water Conservation District Award in Environmental Science (\$50) Joshitha Kondapalli, Tipp HS; Garmann Miller Award in Material Science (\$100) Clark McGinnis, L. T. Ball – Tipp City; J. A. Smith Memorial Award in Material Science (\$50) Aisha Nair, L. T. Ball – Tipp City; North Star BlueScope Steel Award in Engineering or Robotics (\$100) Asher Vonderembse, Miami East JHS; Chaney Family Award for Engineering Design (\$100 plus Trophy) Max Lesher, Tipp MS; Premier Health-UVMC Award in Medicine & Health Sciences or Microbiology 1st (\$100) Ujval Kondapalli, Tipp MS; 2nd (\$50) Dominik Goetz & Abel Varghese, UVCC; 3rd (\$50) Sawyer Bates & Anderson White, Miami East JHS; Garmann Miller Award in Medicine & Health Sciences (\$50) Taylor Schmittmeyer, UVCC; Tippecanoe Masonic Lodge No. 174 Award in Medicine & Health Sciences (\$50) Jackson Beaman & Madison Schulte, UVCC; Tippecanoe Masonic Lodge No. 174 Award in Physics 1st (\$100) Max Lesher, Tipp MS; 2nd (\$50) and Anna Carroll, L. T. Ball; Cargill Awards in Plant Science (\$100) Lilly Nation & Tilly Hill, Miami East JHS and (\$100) Kendall Peters, Covington MS.

Other Sponsored Awards: from Abbott Nutrition-Tipp City Awards: a medal and Boonshoft Museum tickets: for “One Team, One Voice, One Goal” to Zoey Studebaker & Marley Watterson, UVCC; for: “I am Accountable” to Anna Carroll, L. T. Ball – Tipp City; for “I am a Leader” to Max Lesher, Tipp MS; for “I Drive Continuous Improvement” to Emily Riehle, Tipp MS; for “I will make Timely, Fact-based Decisions” to Asher Vonderembse, Miami East JHS; for “My Work Matters” to Corinne Outten, Tipp MS. Sebastian Family Awards for Best Presentation of Data (Tables & Graphs) (\$100 grades 9-12) to Kara Hale, Miami East HS and (\$100 – grades 5-8) Titus Hoffman, L. T. Ball – Tipp City. Tipp-Monroe Optimists Awards for Best Abstract (\$50 each) to Kara Hale, Miami East HS; Ujval Kondapalli, Tipp MS; Emily Riehle, Tipp MS. McMurry family “Spirit of Science” Award (\$100) to Zella Nickol, Covington MS. McNerney Family Spirit of Teamwork Award (\$120 – grades 9-12) to Jackson Beaman & Madison Schulte, UVCC and (\$100 - Grades 5-8) to Ella Collins & Kennedy Shivley, Covington MS.

The students, the Upper Miami Valley Science Days Committee, and the Tipp City Schools Math & Science Departments wish to thank all of the sponsors and volunteers for making the 2026 Miami County Science Day a successful event. Anyone with questions about the Science Day program should contact Dr. Martin English, 790 E. Shoop Rd., Tipp City, OH 45371, or email: info@ohioumvsd.com / website: www.ohioumvsd.com .