Key Dates:
Abstract Submission Deadline Dec 21, 2021
Registration Deadline Dec. 22, 2021
Registration Payment Deadline Dec. 22, 2021

December 2021

Dear American Junior Academy of Science Friends:

This is your invitation to join American Junior Academy of Science (AJAS) Convention on February 16-20, 2022 live in Philadelphia, PA or virtually from your own home. Convention plans include our opening reception, tours, Breakfast with Scientists, and our honors banquet! We encourage all academies to send student delegates to this dynamic scientific and cultural event. Junior Academy delegates chosen by their AAAS Affiliated State Science Academy are invited to attend. This includes inviting students who presented at the 2021 remote AAAS conference who have continued conducting research. This year only, students who presented remotely in 2021, who have not continued the research, are also welcome to attend the in-person components to enjoy the full AJAS experience.

Academy Directors: Please be sure that ALL of the information in this document is sent to your students and adult attendees immediately. Returning students must contact their science Academy’s director for approval by submitting their research and abstract along with their request to attend the 2022 Conference. Please ensure that everyone attending the conference submits all their materials and fees on time. All attendees must abide by the 2022 NAAS/AJAS Code of Conduct. Each academy MUST SUBMIT A VERIFICATION LIST of their student delegates and official adult chaperones; email your list of student delegates and adults to: karyn.yeatman@nhacadsci.org.

AJAS Fellows Alumni: Students who presented their research at a previous conference and were inducted as an AJAS Fellow are invited to attend the 2022 AJAS Conference. We want you to be a part of our conference and encourage you to review projects at the 2022 Virtual AJAS/AAAS Poster Session!

Looking forward to seeing you virtually or in-person!

Kelly Salmon, Ph.D.
AJAS Director
AJAS/NAAS Conference Registration Information

AJAS Conference Fees & AAAS Registration Fees

AJAS Registration deadline December 22, 2021
AJAS Conference Fees are due December 22, 2021

Students can choose to attend the 2022 AJAS Conference in either a hybrid (virtual events plus in-person attendance in Philadelphia, PA) or virtual format.

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<th>AJAS Hybrid Conference Fee</th>
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AJAS Official Delegates are students, who will present their research at the 2022 AJAS Conference. This includes 2021 delegates who wish to attend the 2022 conference in-person.

Student Observers are students, such as siblings, who are not delegates.

Adults are teachers, NAAS board members, affiliated academy members, and parents/family members.

AJAS Fellows Alumni are Delegates from previous years who are not presenting their research at the 2022 Conference.

* Every virtual only and hybrid student MUST have an adult registered for the AJAS Conference who will serve as that student’s official chaperone. Adults can chaperone more than one student. Official chaperones are responsible for the safety, welfare, and conduct of their students during the events of the conference.

** Participants may choose to register for Basic Access or Deluxe Access for the AAAS meeting. AAAS Basic Access is free and allows access to plenary talks, the only AAAS talks on the AJAS schedule, and the Expo. Deluxe Access also permits access to the AAAS scientific sessions. If a student (delegate, observer, or alumni) opts for Deluxe Access, a discounted rate of $75 is available. If an adult AJAS chaperone opts for Deluxe Access, a discounted rate of $175 is available.

- If registering for AAAS Basic Access, please select Basic Access during AJAS Conference Online Registration and register yourself at: https://meetings.aaas.org/registration/
- If registering for AAAS Deluxe Access, please select Deluxe Access during AJAS Conference Online Registration and watch your inbox for a link from AAAS.

AJAS Conference Online Registration

- Please read the entire newsletter before registering.
- You will need to agree to the Code of Conduct before registering, please read the 2022 AJAS/NAAS Conference Code of Conduct on page 8 of this document.
- To register go to: https://www.viethconsulting.com/members/evr/reg_event.php?orgcode=NAAS&evid=29211589
- Click-on “Register for this event” and “Register as Guest”
- Enter your contact information. The email address you enter here will be the one used for sending out Conference information. Click-on “Continue”
- Select the registration package shown in the table above that best suits you.
- AJAS Official Delegates will need to provide the names and email addresses for their state’s science academy director, adult chaperone, and teacher and/or research mentor.
• **Payment Method Options**
  
  o **Payment for Self – 2 Options:**
    - To pay by PayPal or credit card -- Select PayPal option.
    - To pay by check -- Select Pay by Check/Money Order option.
      Mail the check with the completed 2022 AJAS Fees Form (page 9).
  
  o **Payment provided by other**
    - Write down the specific name of the person or organization paying your registration fee.
    - Select the Pay by Check/Money Order option.
    - Forward to the payee your confirmation email.

• Read carefully through your confirmation email. If you need to make any changes, contact Karyn Yeatman at karyn.yeatman@nhacadsci.org

➢ **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

  **Submission Deadline: December 21, 2021 (11:59PM Pacific Time)**

  To submit your abstract

  Go to the AAAS Poster Proposals abstract submission website
  [https://aaas.confex.com/aaas/2022/ajas/cfp.cgi](https://aaas.confex.com/aaas/2022/ajas/cfp.cgi)

  For team projects, submit only one abstract, you may include up to 3 authors.

• One or more of your Science Academy's senior scientists or teachers must review/edit your abstract prior to submission. They will work with you to proofread your abstract.

• Only 3 author names are allowable in the submission (the main and 2 co-authors).

• Your mentor/teacher name and email address must also be included to complete the entry.

• Title must be 85 characters or less, including spaces.

• Abstract must be 2600 characters or less, including spaces. Abstract must be one single spaced paragraph with no indents, bullets, charts, or graphs. Titles, authors, footnotes, references or notations of grant funding are not allowed in the abstract.

• Be sure to **submit** your abstract submission.

• Click on “Print this Page” and save it as a PDF file.

• It is important that you then send a copy of this PDF file to Michael Roche at mr.roche@gmail.com with the subject line “AJAS Abstract”

Abstracts for the Poster Session are due by **11:59PM Pacific Time, December 21, 2021**. Any received after this date WILL NOT be published in the **AAAS 2022 Program**. The **AAAS Program** is a record of your abstract publication – the first official scientific publication for many of you.

➢ **AJAS Hotel Information**

The NAAS/AJAS conference hotel is the **Marriott Philadelphia Downtown**

1201 Market St (guest entrance at 1200 Filbert Street), Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 625-2900

To **make your hotel reservations:**

Instructions for making room reservations in the AJAS block will be provided in mid-December.
Directors and chaperones PLEASE coordinate hotel reservations with the adults and students from your academy. **The Science Academy director or an official chaperone needs to make the hotel reservations for the adults and students in your group. At least one chaperone must be on each reservation submitted.**

Registering for the AJAS conference **DOES NOT** reserve your hotel room.

AAAS and AJAS Conference events will take place at the Marriott and also nearby at the Pennsylvania Convention Center ([https://www.paconvention.com/](https://www.paconvention.com/)).

**ROOM RATES – Marriott Philadelphia Downtown** includes all taxes and fees

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**AJAS Remote/Hybrid Conference Events**

Remote events are currently being scheduled. Some remote events will be for fully-remote students only while others will include remote and hybrid AJAS delegates. All students will have a virtual poster (more information below) and attend an event virtually to help prepare posters. The virtual conference space hosting the posters will also host a virtual College Expo with live chat times, during which students can interact with college representatives. A remote Meet the Scientists will be hosted for both remote and hybrid students. Remote students will attend their own virtual Research Roundtable.

**AJAS Conference Events in Philadelphia (Feb. 16-20)**

**Wednesday**

Plan to arrive no later than 3pm on Wednesday, February 16th. All of Wednesday’s events take place at the Marriott Philadelphia Downtown. The registration table will be open from 2:00-5:00PM (location TBD). Chaperones will meet at 5:00PM. Come and meet other chaperones, learn more about the conference schedule, and visit with your committee team. The **AJAS Opening Reception** and Welcome Ceremony will be held in the Liberty Ballroom beginning at 6:30PM. Food and beverages will be served. The late registration table will be set up nearby.

**Thursday**

The AJAS **Research Round Table** Presentations will take place in the Convention Center. Students will be assigned to one of two research round table sessions. When not presenting in research round table, students are encouraged to explore the city with their chaperones. Later in the day, plan to attend the **AAAS Presidential Address** and the AAAS President’s Reception (food and beverages will be served) beginning at 5:00PM. **Our AJAS Students will be recognized at the beginning of this session so please be seated by 4:45PM.** Being introduced to the scientists attending the AAAS’ Annual Meeting is an honor that you do not want to miss. Join the Presidential speaker Dr. Amara and AAAS members at the President’s Reception at the Marriott immediately following the lecture. Spend the end of this evening in the AJAS Student Lounge (location TBD). Play games, learn Liar’s Dice, or just hang out. This is a great place to meet the other student delegates.
Friday
The AJAS Breakfast with Scientists will be held on Friday morning, 8:00-10:00 AM at two locations. Students will either attend the breakfast at University of Pennsylvania or Drexel University. AJAS students will eat breakfast with premier scientists. Concurrently, the Chaperone Appreciation Breakfast will be held. After breakfast, there will be tours of the university’s research facilities until about 2 PM. Friday’s Plenary Lecture will begin at 4 PM. Dinner Friday night is at Maggiano’s (across from the Marriott, we will leave as a group), and the AJAS Student Lounge will be open from 9:00-11:00 PM.

Saturday
On Saturday, we will have hybrid poster sessions. Students will be in the live chat on their ProjectBoard to answer real-time questions during live online poster times. During downtime in online chats, they will visit neighboring posters to learn more about their colleague’s work. During non-assigned times, students can visit the Expo Hall, attend AAAS scientific sessions (if registered for Deluxe Access), or explore the city with their chaperones. Saturday’s Plenary Lecture will be from 4-5:15 PM. The evening will end with the AJAS Honors Banquet at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

2022 AJAS/AAAS Virtual Poster Session
The poster session’s virtual platform is ProjectBoard. This poster session will provide students the opportunity to creatively share their research and allows the scientific community to provide feedback directly to these students. It allows 24/7 access, but live chat times with students about their posters will be assigned. This newsletter provides some information about the posters, with more to come soon.

All posters will be a billboard format – to learn more about this format and why the scientific community is moving towards it, please watch these videos:
Generation 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RwJbhkCA58
Generation 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYk29tnxASs

Mike Morrison, the mastermind behind these videos, will give a live interactive talk with students in early January (date and time TBD).

Billboards will be uploaded along with a short video in January before going live in February. As a reminder, all posters will be reviewed for appropriate content and completeness prior to the session going live. Students must add their official chaperone as a team member to their ProjectBoard page to ensure the submission is appropriate and complete, as well as moderate discussions on the page.

Also, check out this video by Mike Morrison about a Twitter poster: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQDL8r3r_d4
Students may create a Twitter poster to share with Mike during his talk and for us to share with the larger scientific community on Twitter.

2022 Research Round Table
Many professional meetings use this round table format. In this format, AJAS Delegates will communicate their research experience while sharing Powerpoint (or equivalent) slides with their Research Round Table team of 5-7 team members. Each table/zoom room will have at least one student facilitator. Prepare one slide for each of the following:
- The hypothesis or main question your research addressed (20 words maximum)
- Your research environment/methods (use pictures)
- Your most significant results (pictures or graphs)
• Your conclusions (20 words maximum)
• The biggest challenge you faced
• What you would you change, if you had to do it over again

Additional information will be sent to you in January to help you prepare for your presentation. All AJAS Official Delegates must participate in the AJAS Poster Session AND Research Round Table.

➢ Student Leader Opportunities
Two opportunities are available for the AJAS Delegates to serve as student facilitators:
1. Research Round Table Emcee (both in-person and virtual)
   During the ‘Research Round Table Oral Presentations’, the emcee will guide the group through the presentation of their slides and serve as the timekeeper,
2. Meet the Scientist Encourager (virtual only, but hybrid participants may volunteer)
   During the virtual ‘Meet the Scientist’ session, the encourager will make sure that everyone in the group gets a chance to talk and facilitates the Q&A session.

If you are interested in being a student leader, sign-up when registering for the AJAS Conference and you will receive further instructions.

➢ Adult Volunteer Committees
When registering, please select your 1st and 2nd, committee choices. In January, you will receive an email with more specific information regarding your committees and associated pre-meetings.

In-person Committee Options:
Bus Captains You will be managing a group for transportation to and from the destination. Captains will receive a passenger list, map, and site contact information. There will be 2-3 captains per bus. Responsibilities include: taking attendance, ensuring on-time departures, and keeping the group together. If a student is missing, it is the responsibility of their chaperone to stay to find him/her and to find and pay for transportation to/from the destination.

Event Security assistance is needed to ensure that our events are attended only by official AJAS participants. Event Security will check name badges as participants enter events.

Photographers are needed to contribute digital images for the AJAS archives. Members will work with the AJAS Photographer, Michael Colella, to capture all aspects of our conference. Responsibilities include: bringing a camera, taking pictures, and delivering the images you select to Michael.

Registration Committee members are needed for Wednesday from 10:00 AM – 8:30PM. Members of this committee sign-up to work in shifts. Your students can also serve on this committee. It is a fun way to meet everyone who is attending our conference. Responsibilities include:

10:00-12:00PM- Organize registration materials, typically in the host hotel.
(Put AJAS stickers on name badges, put name badges in plastic sleeves, arrange name badges on table in alphabetical order, organize t-shirts, fill conference bags with sponsor brochures, gifts and t-shirt, pin name badge to bag handle)
12:00-2:00PM – Set up registration table
2:00-5:00PM – Registration (Give out conference bag, remind everyone that they MUST wear their badge to ALL events, and check off participants when they register)
6:30-8:30PM – Late Registration to attend the table for those who arrive during the Opening Ceremony
**Student Lounge/Study Hall Assistants** are needed for Thursday and Friday evenings 9:00 – 11:00PM. The student lounge is in the host hotel. Responsibilities include: having fun, playing games (you can bring some games and enjoy the AJAS tradition of playing *Liars Dice*) and making sure only AJAS students and chaperones attend this event.

**Thank You Letter Committee** members will meet Saturday evening around 10:00PM to stamp and seal envelopes for the Thank You letters students have written. At the Wednesday Chaperone meeting, one chaperone from each affiliated science academy will receive an envelope with Thank You note cards. Envelopes will already be addressed so students know to whom they are writing the thank you.

**Virtual Committee Options:**

**Meet the Scientist Moderator**
Students in small groups (6-10) will be assigned to a *Meet the Scientists* session. During this session, the students will introduce themselves and the scientists will discuss their current responsibilities as well as their career path. As the Adult, your role is to take attendance and ensure appropriate behavior. Others can attend these sessions as viewers only…their video and microphone will be muted.

**Poster Submission Review Team**
Members on this committee will have access to the AJAS Poster Session January 30-February 7. Reviewers will be assigned posters to examine for appropriate and adequate content. A rubric will be used to approve projects. Approved projects will be “tagged” with the AJAS Fellows pin.

**Research Round Table Supervisor**
Students (small groups of 5-7) will be assigned to a research round table zoom meeting. One student will serve as the facilitator and lead the group in discussion and the sharing of presentation slides. Two adults will be assigned to each meeting to take attendance and supervise for appropriate behavior.

**Zoom Host/Co-Host**
Are you Zoom savvy? Do you have experience being a Zoom Host or Co-Host? If you answered “yes” to these questions, we need your help serving as hosts or co-hosts in Zoom meetings.

**Zoom Technical Support**
Are you an expert Zoom user? Do you know how to problem-solve technical issues for hosts and participants during a Zoom meeting? If you answered “yes” to these questions, please consider volunteering as a Zoom Technical Support person.
2022 AJAS/NAAS Virtual Conference Code of Conduct

The AJAS is committed to providing a safe, productive, and welcoming environment for all conference participants. All participants, including, but not limited to, registered conference guests, speakers, volunteers, sponsors, NAAS board members, service providers, and all others are expected to abide by this Hybrid Conference Code of Conduct. This Policy applies to all AJAS/NAAS meeting-related events, including the events held at the AAAS Annual Meeting.

AJAS/NAAS has zero-tolerance for any form of discrimination or harassment, including but not limited to sexual harassment by participants at our meetings. If you experience harassment or hear of any incidents of unacceptable behavior, please inform Kelly Salmon at Kelly.Salmon@nhacadsci.org or Karyn Yeatman at Karyn.Yeatman@nhacadsci.org.

Unacceptable Behavior is defined as:

- Intimidation, harassment, unprofessional behavior, and/or discrimination in any form and includes behavior that is not welcome or is personally offensive.
- Verbal and/or written abuse which includes, but are not limited to, derogatory, threatening or profane comments related to ethnicity, race, national origin, gender, religion, age, physical appearance, disability, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other reason not related to scientific merit.
- Not maintaining appropriate physical boundaries.
- Inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images in-person, in virtual spaces, or in presentations.
- Unwelcome attention including threatening or stalking behavior.
- Sending links to inappropriate websites that could be deemed unacceptable as listed above.

Behavior that is acceptable to one person may be unacceptable to another, so use discretion to ensure that respect is communicated. Harassment presented in a joking manner still constitutes unacceptable behavior.

Participants are required to refrain from the following prohibited activities:

- Recording/transmission of sessions, presentations, or content in any format.
- Disruption of presentations or any other events organized by AJAS/NAAS/AAAS.
- Inclusion of promotional materials, special offers, job offers, product announcements, or solicitation for services in presentations, postings, or messages. NAAS reserves the right to remove such messages and potentially ban sources of those solicitations.

AJAS/NAAS reserves the right to take any action deemed necessary and appropriate, including immediate removal from the meeting without warning or refund, in response to any incident of unacceptable behavior, and AJAS/NAAS reserves the right to prohibit attendance at any future meeting, virtually or in person.
AJAS Payment of Fees Form
For individuals not paying by credit card or PayPal
Form and Fees due December 22, 2021

Person Submitting Form and Payment

Name: ____________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: ___________________________
email: ____________________________________________

Affiliated Science Academy: ____________________________________________

For amount due, please refer to your online registration receipt. This form is for payment by check. Please disregard if you paid via PayPal or credit card online.

AJAS Conference Fee payment for:

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Total: $__________

*For more than 12 participants, print more copies of this form and submit in one envelope.

Mail this form and a check made out to NAAS to:
Ernest Schiller, Treasurer
2224 204th Avenue
Donnellson, IA 52625