MEDIA ADVISORY

Buffalo’s First-Ever City Honors International Science Fair Competitor

Student is a star performer in specialized HWI Science Program for High School students

WHEN:  Friday, April 24, 2009

1 pm – 3 pm; At 1 pm the students will be having a pizza party and available to speak with reporters, at 2 pm they are giving their presentations in the HWI board room and can be photographed or filmed at that time.

WHERE:  Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute

700 Ellicott Street, Buffalo, NY 14203

WHAT:  Buffalo has bragging rights as one of its best and brightest young minds, Jimmitti Teysir, prepares to compete in this year’s Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Reno, Nevada from May 10-15, 2009. According to HWI Distinguished Scientist Dr. William Duax, City Honors students have been working to attain the goal of attending this fair for almost 15 years but Jimmitti Teysir, a junior, is the first student at her school to ever compete in the fair. The fair is the world’s largest international pre-college science competition and is offered to students who excel in science and engineering. The Intel ISEF is the premiere science competition in the world exclusively for students in grades 9–12.

For years now, City Honors students enrolled in the science research program have taken advantage of the opportunity to work with research scientists at the Hauptman-Woodward Institute. This year, City Honors/HWI student Teysir will showcase her independent research talent at the event and have a chance to compete among some of the best high school science students in the world. The event will bring 1,600 exceptional high-school science students from more than 50 countries to compete for $4 million in awards and scholarships as semi-finalists in the world’s largest science, math, and engineering competition.

Teysir is the fourth student trained at HWI who has achieved the goal of competing in this international fair. Previous HWI students include Gabriel Ortiz, who was a 1992 finalist and Sankha Basu, who in 1999 was a semifinalist. Michael Wong also competed in the then Westinghouse Science Fair. All three students were students of Dr. Debashis Ghosh, and HWI research scientist currently studying breast cancer.

WHO:  Talented City Honors students who are being trained by Dr. William Duax at HWI and students in a program at Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

ABOUT HWI

With more than 50 years of exceptional scientific research, the Hauptman-Woodward Institute is an internationally-renowned independent, non-profit facility specializing in life-altering research. Our team of more than 75 members is committed to improving human health through the study of the causes of diseases, as well as potential therapies, at their fundamental molecular level. HWI is located in the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in Downtown Buffalo, New York, in a state-of-the-art structural biology research center at 700 Ellicott Street. For more information, visit HWI’s website at www.hwi.buffalo.edu or call 716-898-8600.

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