

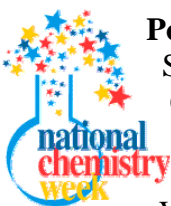


September 21, 2007

Dear Teachers,

We hope your school year is off to a great start! We'd like to draw your attention to several opportunities to incorporate inquiry based learning into your classroom and to stimulate the inner scientist in you and your students.

Following is a list of upcoming opportunities.



Poster Contest for the American Chemical Society

Students can create a poster on this year's theme of "The Many Faces of Chemistry" to motivate and inspire students to pursue careers in science and chemistry. Guidelines can be found on the ACS website at <http://acswebcontent.acs.org/ncw/k-12contest.pdf>. ALL submissions from Virginia will be displayed at the October 25th VA Blue Ridge Section meeting in Ferrum. The section will award prizes for the winning poster in each grade category. Deadlines for submission: October 19th or bring posters directly to meeting on October 25th.

** Arlene Vinion-Dubiel, your Instructional Support Specialist, will be happy to pick up your students' posters by Thursday, October 11 and submit them to the contest. Please check for more information at the website above and contact Arlene at dubiel@sbc.edu for pick-up information. **



Virginia Hydrogen Education Workshop

A unique opportunity to learn information and hands-on activities to teach students about hydrogen! The workshop will be held on October 4 from 8:00am until 3:30pm at Nautilus at One Waterside Drive in Norfolk, VA 23510. The workshop is open to classroom teachers of grades 6-12; tuition is FREE to Virginia teachers, and breakfast and lunch will be provided. Participants' schools will receive an H₂ Education Kit with materials for multiple teachers to use. Registration deadline is September 28. For further information, go to <http://www.need.org/needpdf/07WorkshopInvite10.4.pdf> or contact Rebecca Lamb at rlamb@need.org or 800-875-5029.



Teacher Incentive Grants from the Virginia Commission for the Arts

Grants of up to \$300 are awarded to classroom teachers of grades PreK-12 for projects that integrate the arts with non-arts subjects. The grant can be used to underwrite arts resources, arts consultants, and/or artists for an innovative classroom project that links the arts to non-arts SOLs. Last year, 320 teachers from Virginia received grants totaling \$91,206. Application deadline is October 15, 2007. For more information, go to http://www.arts.virginia.gov/grants/strengthening/teacher_incentive.html.



Family Health History Month Poster Contest

Middle and high school students can help generate awareness about the importance of family health history by participating in a state-wide poster contest. Deadline for submissions is October 1. Prizes (\$200 1st prize, \$50 2nd and 3rd prizes) will be awarded and the winning poster will be reproduced and displayed statewide during the month of November, Family Health History Month. For more details, see attached (FHHM flyer) or call Heather Creswick at 804-828-6245.

We're here to help you! Let us know what you're up to. Email your Instructional Support Specialists, Arlene Vinion-Dubiel, at dubiel@sbc.edu, with questions about ideas, resources, supplies, and more, and Jane Haxby, at jhaxby@sbc.edu, with questions about grant writing.

Jane Haxby
co-Instructional Support Specialist
jhaxby@sbc.edu
www.sxi.sbc.edu