

DuPage County
ACT-SO Pinning
Ceremony

February Enrichment Schedule

2:00pm – 3:00pm

Student Pinning Ceremony

3:00pm – 4:00pm

**Family Meeting: (Cafeteria)
Student Enrichment Session 1 (Classrooms)**

4:00pm – 4:05pm

Break / Students Move to 2nd Session

4:05pm – 5:00pm

**Student Enrichment Session 2 (Classrooms)- STEM/Business
Humanities and Arts students return to cafeteria
Family Check-in (registration, fundraising, etc.)**

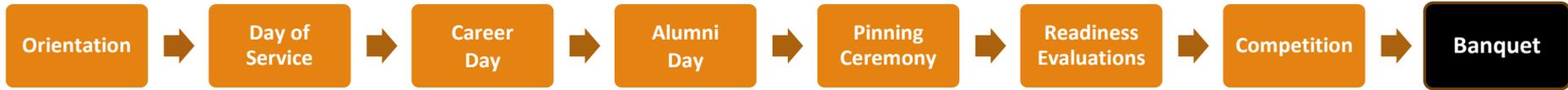


WiFi Network: VVSD_Guest
Password: openvvsdwifi

DuPage County



February 2026 Family Meeting



CONGRATULATIONS!! YOU ARE HERE!!

- ✓ Day of Service- Made blankets for veterans at Meadowbrook Manor.
- ✓ Bonding experience- Scene 75.
- ✓ 6-months of student enrichment sessions and family meetings.
- ✓ Student meetings with mentors.
- ✓ Focused work on competition projects and performances.
- ✓ Career Day- interacted with industry professionals.
- ✓ Alumni Day- networked with former students.
- ✓ Participated in Readiness Evaluations to prepare for competition.
- ✓ Learned about scholarship opportunities.

Upcoming:

- College and Career Readiness virtual meetings - upcoming
- Student presentations/ performances at the Local Competition
- Celebrate at the Awards Banquet

Category	What to Submit
All STEM Categories	1) Research Paper 2) STEM Verification Form
Entrepreneurship	1) Business Plan 2) Statement of Integrity (may be required-TBD)
Short Story Poetry - Written	1) Creative Paper 2) Statement of Integrity (may be required-TBD)
Poetry - Performance	1) Statement of Integrity (may be required-TBD)
Music Instrumental (Classical) Music Instrumental (Contemporary)	1) Copy of Sheet Music
Music Composition	1) Notarized copy of composition 2) MP3 Audio File
Filmmaking	1) Copy of (digital or hand drawn) storyboard 2) Upload film

Include: Student's Name, DuPage County ACT-SO #3012, and page numbers at the top of every page for written entries

At top of every page for written entries include:
Name, page number, DuPage County ACT-SO, Unit 3012

Ethan Covington
Du Page County ACT-SO
Unit 3012
Biology/Microbiology
Page: 4

Submission Due Dates

Written Papers are due: **Friday, March 13, 2026 by 11:59PM**

STEM Presentations for Printed Board are due: **Sunday, March 15, 2026 by 11:59PM**

Note:

- **There will be a 1-point deduction per day for late submission.**
- **Students should upload a copy of their PPT in their student folder and bring an external drive that contains your project to the competition.**



Every STEM Project submission must include this form that is completed and signed by the mentor.

Student's Last Name First ACT-SO Unit Grade



**Teacher/Mentor/Advisor
STEM Verification Form
Year 2025/2026**

If student does substantial research in a science laboratory, the supervising scientist must answer these questions. For all other submissions, the teacher or advisor who has worked the most with the student must answer these questions.

How long have you known the student and in what capacity?

How did the student get the idea for this project? Was the project assigned or picked from a list of potential research topics?

To what extent is the research the work of the student?

How independently did the student work on this project?

In which ACT-SO STEM category is this project being submitted? _____

How would you rate the student in the following areas?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Unknown
Scientific Understanding					
Grasp of central project concepts					
Attention to detail					
Use of special equipment					
Oral Communication					
Written Communication					
Peer Relationships					
Overall ability					

Print or Type Name Date

Position

Institution/School

Address

Circle all that apply:

Signature

a. Scientist

b. Advisor

c. Teacher

Telephone Number

E-mail Address



Shar... > AC... > 2024 ... > 5. Pi

Type People Modified

Name	↑	Ov
Agwuncha, Amala		
Akyea, Delia		
Akyea, Wesley		
Ankum, Kaitlyn		
Anum, Richmond		
Blankenship, Jaden		
Bouldin, Luke		
Brady, Chandler		
Brown Jr, Antonio		
Clements, AJ		
Clemons, Christian		
Davis, Brandon		

Each student will receive a link to their individual folder at the email address we have on file.

Email a copy of your project to: projects@dupageact-so.org

Judging Criteria:

Criteria	Weight	Description
Emotional Connection	20	Does the poem evoke a strong emotional response in the reader?
Original Thought	20	Is the poem unique and thought-provoking?
Sequential Development	20	Does the poem have a clear structure and flow?
Structure & Presentation	20	Is the poem well-formatted and grammatically correct?
Language & Theme	20	Does the poem use vivid language and imagery to enhance the theme?
Total	100	

SAMPLE CRITERIA POINTS

POETRY - WRITTEN

NATIONAL NAACP ACT-SO POINT/SCORING SYSTEM

Each Contestant may receive up to a total of 100 points. Points are issued to a contestant based on a specific set of criteria, which is outlined in the Category Description section of the manual.

When identifying competition winners, all scores must fall in the following range:

GOLD 100 - 95 POINTS

SILVER 94 - 90 POINTS

BRONZE 89 - 85 POINTS

In the event all scores fall within the same range (i.e., 99 Gold, 98 Silver, 97 Bronze) rank the scores in sequential order with the highest score first.

- The judges must break all ties.
- One (1) point should be deducted for each infraction of the specified criteria.
- Based on the point system it is possible to not have a gold medal winner on the local level. The judges alone following the specified category criteria and using the point system will determine the winner.
- In extenuating circumstances, the silver medal winner may replace the gold medal winner if the silver medal winner's scores fall within the 95-100 gold medal range.
- No other individual should influence, discuss, or participate in deliberations outside of members of the competition's official judging panel.

NOTE: Students who do not have a cumulative score between 95-100 are NOT considered Gold Medalists and will not be allowed to compete at the National Competition

Not all categories may have Gold, Silver, or Bronze medalists

Volunteers Needed

Roles:

- Greeters
- Room Facilitators
- Door monitors
- Timekeepers
- Hospitality Support



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

for our

Local ACT-SO Competition

We are seeking compassionate individuals who are enthusiastic about supporting our youth!

Join Us:
March 21, 2026
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

DuPage County Administrative Bldg.
421 N. County Farm Rd.
Wheaton, IL 60187

DuPage County
ACT-SO

WE NEED:

- Greeters
- Timekeepers
- Door Monitors
- Judge Support
- Hospitality Support

Register to volunteer using the QR code or [CLICK HERE](#)



DUPAGE COUNTY ACT-SO LOCAL COMPETITION

DATE: Saturday, March 21, 2026

LOCATION: DuPage County Administrative Building
421 N. County Farm Road
Wheaton, IL 60187

ENTER: Main Entrance Rd. from N. County Farm Rd.

PARKING: Open, uncovered parking lot

STUDENT ARRIVAL TIME: 8:00AM

COMPETITIONS START: 9:00AM (SHARP)

COMPETITIONS END BY: 1:00PM

OPEN VIEWING OF PROJECTS: 1:00PM-2:00PM

HOSPITALITY: Light breakfast will be available for competing students

ATTIRE: Business Professional or Performance Appropriate



**24 Days
Away!**

Competition Details & Logistics

- **51 students competing in 26 competition categories.**
- **Students and families will receive the competition schedule in advance.**
- **Each student will have a designated call time to meet with the Judges for their competition category(ies).**
- **STEM, Business, and Performing Arts categories will be open for public viewing.**
- **Humanities and Visual Arts will be closed competitions.**
- **At the end of the competition (~1:00PM) STEM posters and art projects will be on display for 1-hour in the atrium.**
- **Projects will be taken from the competition to the Bolingbrook Golf Club for display at the banquet.**



DUPAGE COUNTY ACT-SO

ROOTED IN EXCELLENCE: RISING BEYOND LIMITS

WE INVITE YOU TO ATTEND OUR

2026 ANNUAL AWARDS *Banquet*

Join us for an unforgettable celebration of our students' achievements in the Arts, Humanities, Business and STEM.

MARCH 22, 2026 | 1:00PM

Bolingbrook Golf Club
2001 Rodeo Dr.
Bolingbrook, IL 60490

To purchase tickets
use the QR Code



Attire: Semi-Formal

Tickets: \$85 | Tables: \$850

If unable to attend
consider donating to B.A.S.E.

To donate
use the QR Code



B.A.S.E. is the non-profit which supports the DuPage County ACT-SO Program.
Donations are tax deductible as allowable by law.

Advanced ticket purchase is required. Ticket sale close: March 14, 2026

www.dupageact-so.org

Bolingbrook Golf Club
2001 Rodeo Drive
Bolingbrook, IL
(1:00PM - 4:30PM)

Student Arrival: 12:00PM
Doors Open: 12:00PM
-Open Seating

Invitations will be available at the March 7th session if you would like to share them with friends, family and others in your network.

Family Fundraising Requirement



All outstanding fundraising fees must be paid by March 13, 2026.



The fee p/ family is: \$450



This fee may be satisfied by purchasing banquet tickets or direct donations.

To Purchase Tickets:

[DuPage County ACT-SO Banquet Tickets Sales Now Open](#)

Banquet Attire

Semi-Formal Guidelines

Attire

- Cocktail, midi, or maxi dress
- Pantsuit
- Jumpsuit

Shoes

- Heels
- Strappy sandals
- Dressy flats

Accessories

- Sparkling jewelry
- Clutch
- Small shoulder bag
- Shrug or shawl



Attire

- Dark suit
- Suit jacket
- Blazer
- Dress shirt
- Dress pants

Shoes

- Dressy loafers
- Oxfords
- Lace-up shoes

Accessories

- Tie
- Cuff links
- Belt
- Dress socks



Gifts2 Geniuses

Volunteers are needed to:

- 1.) Solicit donations from local businesses for 53 students.
 - Ideal donations: toiletries, electronics, gift cards, etc.
- 2.) Pack gift bags for the awards ceremony.
 - If interested, please contact: Chioma Agwuncha (312-636-1031)

College & Career Readiness

More information regarding virtual meetings will be announced in the coming weeks.

Target audience: Rising Sophomores and Juniors

COORDINATOR: KARIN RIVERS

THE 2025 NATIONAL ACT-SO COMPETITION

Chicago, Illinois

July 15-19, 2026 (5-days)

[Click Here to View ACT-SO Schedule](#)



**If you are experiencing issues with registering with the National
ACT-SO program, please email the contacts below:**

bgossett@naacpnet.org

actso@naacpnet.org

jbriley@naacpnet.org

