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High school students to participate in fifth annual Montana Science Fair at MSU

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FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Montana's top teenage scientists are now competing in district science fairs throughout the state for a chance to display their projects at the fifth annual Montana Science Fair at Montana State University, April 1 and 2, according to Dr. R. A. Diettert, chairman of the MSU Botany Department and state fair director.

District winners will be competing at MSU for five grand prizes and numerous other awards, Dr. Diettert said. The boy and the girl with the best exhibits will each receive an expense paid trip to the national science fair this spring.

Entrants in the state fair will exhibit in two main categories, the senior high and the junior high divisions, Dr. Diettert said.

The first Montana Science Fair, conducted at the University in 1956, was open to all interested students and drew exhibitors from 19 schools. Last year the number of schools represented had increased to nearly 100, Dr. Diettert noted.

This tremendous growth in interest and participation has made it necessary to limit exhibitors to winners in the preliminary district fairs, Dr. Diettert explained.

The Montana Science Fair is affiliated with the National Science Fair program sponsored by Science Clubs of America, a nonprofit organization devoted to encouraging teenagers to prepare for careers in science, according to Dr. Diettert.

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