

# SA'S LARGEST SCIENCE COMPETITION



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



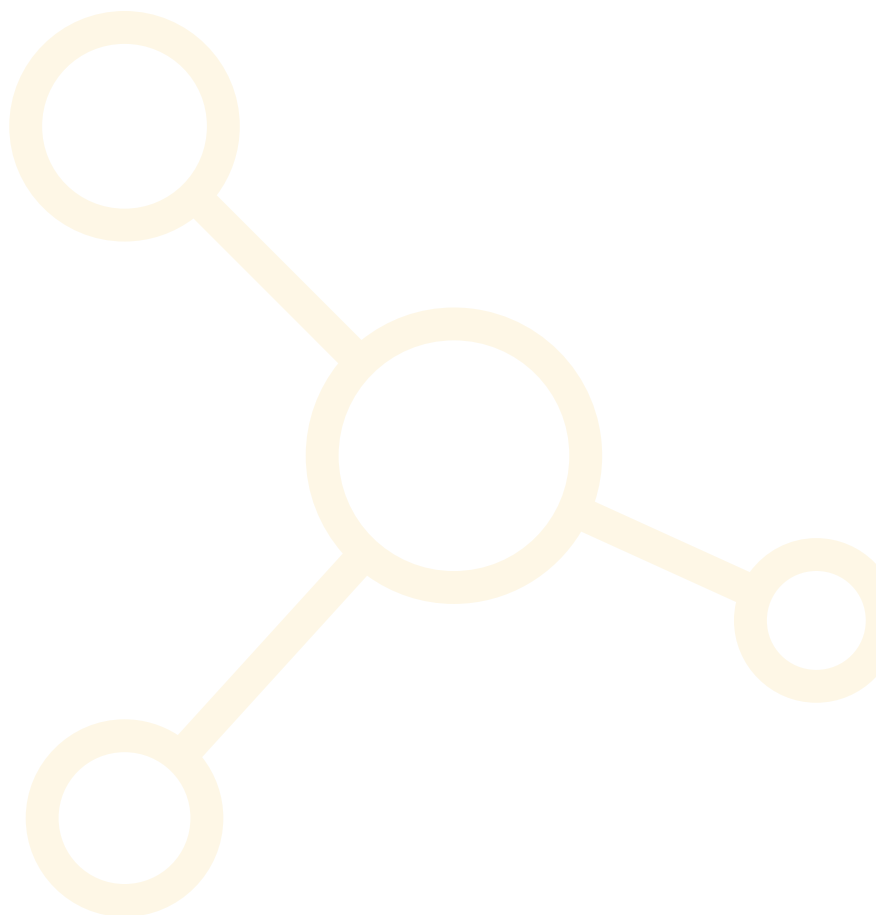


Named in honour of Sir Mark Oliphant, the Oliphant Science Awards hold a long and prestigious history in South Australia. Since their inception in 1981, the Awards have continuously grown and they now boast entries from over 3000 students – making the Awards the largest science competition in South Australia.



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“The Oliphant Science Awards commenced in 1981, with Sir Mark personally hand crafting the Oliphant Trophy which is awarded to the entry that the judges consider has the most outstanding science content.”

# FOREWORD



## Your Opportunity to be involved in South Australia's largest science competition...

On behalf of the South Australian Science Teachers Association, I invite you to partner with us to deliver the Oliphant Science Awards.

Our Awards provide unique, exciting and creative opportunities for South Australian students to engage with science and technology – ultimately we are working to inspire the next generation of science professionals.

The Oliphant Science Awards is South Australia's largest student science competition. Last year 3,312 students registered 2,553 projects. Our largest category was Posters with 518 project registrations followed closely by Models & Inventions and a large uptake in the Photography category.

We launched Citizen Science as a new category for class groups in 2023, which was well received and we look forward to seeing the interest in this category grow.

We were excited to partner with Science Alive! again to host the Oliphant Science Awards onsite competition and Open Day in 2023. There were almost 20,000 visitors at Science Alive over the 3 days, which meant much more exposure for the Oliphant Science Awards to the general public and schools who may not have been involved before. The Virtual Open Day project gallery continued in 2023, which showcased student work on our website, and blogs for students and teachers allowed us to share ideas and content with those involved.

Planning is now underway for the 2024 Awards. There is great potential for students to explore real-world applications of autonomous technologies in areas including agriculture, mining, manufacturing, medicine, space and deep ocean exploration.

With our Awards continuing to grow – we are seeking sponsors to help achieve our vision – South Australia's largest and most exciting science competition. We offer a great platform for sponsors to not only engage and support students, but our public profile allows you to be seen.

Our range of events extends over five months, and reaches over 3,000 students, teachers, family, plus the wider public. We would love your support, and in return we will work to build your profile and ensure you receive recognition as required.

Please take the time to view our range of sponsorship opportunities. We are also happy to custom a package to suit your budget and ideas.

We hope you may consider supporting us in what is truly South Australia's largest and most prestigious science competition.

**Dina Matheson**  
SASTA President

# ABOUT THE OLIPHANT SCIENCE AWARDS

The Oliphant Science Awards is an annual competition for South Australian school students to develop their interest in science.

The competition, which is open to students in Reception through to year 12, includes a range of categories to suit a wide variety of abilities and interests. Students can enter and participate through ten categories including: Citizen Science, Crystal Investigations; Games; Models & Inventions; Multimedia; Photography; Posters; Programming, Apps & Robotics; Science Writing; and Scientific Inquiry.

This diverse range of categories caters for all students, irrespective of gender, culture, socio-economic status, age and school location. It supports the standards from the Australian Curriculum. Further, entrants can choose to submit as a group, individual or class group.

Students compete for the Oliphant Trophy, which was hand crafted by Award Patron, Sir Mark Oliphant, in 1981.

This prestigious trophy is awarded to the entry that the judges consider has the most outstanding science content. Additionally students' efforts are rewarded with cash prizes, which are given for first, second and third in each of the nine categories. The Department for Education also sponsor the South Australian Young Scientist Awards and Rowe Scientific sponsor the Emerging Talent Award for students in R-6 and 7-12.

Additional sponsor prizes may also be won and often a student's entry receives both category and sponsor prizes.

The Oliphant Science Awards stimulate and enable students to:

- Undertake and report on scientific investigations;
- Show and communicate their work to a broader audience;

- Explore their interests, skills, talents and creativity;
- Conceive and complete a project, often as part of a team;
- Involve themselves in scientific and technological discovery; and
- Increase their career awareness in the sciences.

Essentially, the Awards enable and encourage students to explore, participate and engage in science and technology. Learning science encourages students to develop skills such as observation, prediction and communication as well as expanding their knowledge within and between the diverse domains of science. The Awards generate discussions and learning about science – this in turn leads to students who are better able make informed choices about the environment, research and society, and their own health and wellbeing.

## Did you know?

Each year the Oliphant Science Awards has a range of categories which students can address via Photography, Posters and Science Writing.

Some of these titles have been introduced so that students can utilise the National Science Week theme. The other categories being Crystal Investigations, Games, Models & Inventions, Multimedia, Programming, Apps & Robotics and Scientific Inquiry do not have specific category titles attached to them so the students choose their own individual titles.

For our Photography, Poster and Science Writing categories our Oliphant Science Awards Committee each year determines a number of specific project titles for the student project.

We welcome title suggestions each year from our sponsors.

To give you an idea of this year's selected titles head to our project category information via our website:

**[www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au](http://www.oliphantscienceawards.com.au)**

# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

As you can imagine delivering, coordinating and managing a competition for over 3000 students is a large undertaking. We love what we do, but we want to grow, innovate and continue to deliver excellence. To achieve this vision, we would love your support. Here's a few good reasons why supporting the Oliphant Science Awards is a 'must-do':



1 H YC`jd\ UbhGVYbW'5 k UfXg` UfY'Gci h '5i ghU]Ug`~Uf[ Ygh gli XYbhgVYbW'Wt'a dYh]cbz k\ jW` UhfUWg`over 3000 ghi XYbh YbfjYg`YUW`nYUf"

2 The Awards are open to all South Australian school students (Department, Catholic and Independent currently undertaking schooling in Reception to Year 12. Over 100 schools participate each year.



3 Gdcbgcfgl jd'[ Jj Yg'mci 'U\ UbXg` cb`cddcfh b]lmitc`VY]bj c`j YXÁ` <Yd`W cgY`Ufcd]WUbX`h Ya Y` k\ jW` fY`UhfYg`h`h YgVYbW`j b` mci f`Vi g]bYggÁ`"; Yfghi XYbtg` k cf\_]b[ `cb`Ufcd]WU Ufgh` ja dcfhUbhincí Á Mci`VUb`Yj Yb` bca j bUfY`h` VY`cbY`cZ`h Y` 1 X[ Yg`"

4 Your company can be promoted through SASTA's Oliphant Science Awards digital marketing including SASTA's E-News (sent monthly) to more than 2500 subscribers, blog posts and SASTA's general newsletters and journals. If you have any other ideas, we're more than happy to work with you!

5 SASTA can promote your organisation via our Social Media accounts... We have over 1800 Facebook followers and 1300 Twitter followers plus we're new to Instagram! And our Oliphant Science Awards Facebook page continues to grow!

6 We hold a series of high profile events which extends over five months. Planned public events include the Open Day in August at Science Alive!, and the Presentation Ceremony in September. Following this ceremony some prizes are presented at school assemblies. You can be involved in some... or all!

"The Oliphant Science Awards was an amazing experience and I feel very proud of what we achieved"

CHERIE JANSEN (YR 7)

# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The benefits of being involved are highlighted below:

Sponsorship Opportunities	Platinum \$11 000	Gold \$5500	Category Naming Rights \$2750	Silver \$2310	Bronze \$1375	In-kind Sponsor
<b>Pre-Event Publicity</b>						
Oliphant Science Awards website: Logo on website	✓	✓	✓	✓	name only	name only
Awards poster: Logo	✓	✓	✓	✓		
SASTA e-news/newsletter advertisement (Provided by sponsor)	✓					
Social media promotion (Twitter and Facebook)	✓	✓	✓			
Naming rights of one of the nine categories (chosen by sponsor - name and logo promoted in any communications including the competition categories e.g. website and Information Booklet)			✓			
<b>Judging Day &amp; Open Day Event</b>						
Sponsor table or display (provided by sponsor)	✓					
Sponsor logo on display (provided by SASTA)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
External banners or pull-ups (provided by sponsor)	✓	✓				
Sponsor prizes awarded	up to 6	4	3	2	1	to be negotiated
Sponsor prize selection (by sponsor representative)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Presentation Ceremony</b>						
Banner on stage	✓	✓	✓			
Acknowledgement by speakers & powerpoint	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Presentation of sponsor prize on stage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Full page advertisement in A5 presentation book	✓	✓				
1/2 page advertisement in A5 presentation book			✓			
1/3 page advertisement in A5 presentation book				✓		
Logo in presentation booklet	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Speech on stage	✓	✓				
<b>After Presentation Ceremony</b>						
Post event report	✓					
Certificate & photos	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

\* GST inclusive

In-kind sponsorship could include annual memberships, subscriptions or science experiences for prize-winning students

# HOW YOUR FUNDS WILL BE UTILISED?



Each year, our team works to deliver excellence in our Awards.

We have identified the following investment priorities which your sponsorship will allow us to implement or improve:

- **Award Participation:** We are continually working to grow award participation from students across a whole spectrum of schools. We know many have limited operating budgets, as such we would like to subsidise the entry fee to encourage participation from 'first time' schools, regional schools and those with an acknowledged disadvantage;
- **Judging:** Each year almost one hundred volunteer judges give up thousands of hours collectively, to help critically judge student entries. We would like to make the judging process more objective and "improve the rubrics." As such we are continuing to develop a judging training package to assist less experienced judges and are keen to implement this;
- **Website and social media:** We want to improve our public profile and increase our presence on social media. We know this is an avenue which will continue to be integral to how we communicate with participants, teachers and the general public. Not only would we like to expand our Twitter and Facebook accounts, but we would like to provide a shared online database of participants, which teachers can use for internal school administration purposes;
- **Publicity:** We would like to broaden our advertising so that all students and teachers are aware of the opportunities that the Oliphant Science Awards offer to extend student experiences in science.
- **Open Day:** We would like to continually improve the experience of visitors to our Open Day celebrations where we
  - (1) Showcase winning entries,
  - (2) Continue to make our display more interactive, and
  - (3) Host come and try activities for students;
- **Prizes:** With over 3000 students involved in the nine formal categories, there is a large range of prizes to be awarded. We are seeking new prizes for great students.
- **Event support:** Being a membership driven Association, the purse strings are always a little tight. Support to help us print, hire venues, cater, post, courier and generally operate are always appreciated.

# SIR MARK OLIPHANT



## Did you know?

Sir Mark personally designed and crafted the titanium metal perpetual trophy that the annual winning student holds for one year. The trophy is then exchanged for an engraved medal at the following year's Award Ceremony.

The South Australian Science Teachers Association has been privileged to have had Sir Mark Oliphant as our Patron for the SASTA Oliphant Science Awards since their inception in 1981. Like many of the recipients of these awards, Sir Mark was born in South Australia and received his primary and secondary education in state schools here. An outstanding student, Sir Mark investigated a number of career pathways and eventually settled on the pursuit of science at the University of Adelaide. Sir Mark showed a love of tinkering and invention from an early age, and it was in the science laboratories in Adelaide that he started to make his own scientific apparatus. He was to become one of the leaders in the design and construction of revolutionary apparatus, including particle accelerators used to investigate the structure and interactions of the nuclei of atoms.

In 1927 a scholarship took Sir Mark to the famous Cavendish

Laboratories in Cambridge, UK where he worked with Lord Rutherford, who was a pioneer in atomic physics. Together with other great scientists including Fermi, Lawrence and Oppenheimer, Sir Mark created the brave new world of nuclear physics. His expertise in this area was to lead Sir Mark to the Manhattan Project in America and to his participation in the development of the first atomic bomb.

Sir Mark was always a champion of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and in 1937 accepted his first professorship as head of the Physics Department at Birmingham University where he was to continue to push the boundaries of knowledge of nuclear physics. In this year he was elected as a 'Fellow of the Royal Society'.

In 1955 Sir Mark's reputation as scientist, research director and administrator were well established in the scientific community. This, together with his declared interest in establishing world class

educational research facilities in Australia, led Sir Mark back to Australia at the request of the Government. In this year he founded the Research School of Physical Sciences at the newly established Australian National University in Canberra.

In the years after retirement from academic life Sir Mark became a household name in South Australia where he gave distinguished service as our State Governor.

A clear demonstration of his ongoing support of science and science education was provided to the science community in our state when Sir Mark agreed, in 1981, to lend his name as patron of the SASTA Oliphant Science Awards.

Sir Mark's legacy will live on in many ways, not least through the thousands of students and teachers who participate in these awards annually. Of special significance is that Sir Mark, through his love of tinkering and invention, made the perpetual Oliphant Trophy himself.



# ABOUT THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



The South Australian Science Teachers Association (SASTA) aims 'to promote and support the teaching of science in schools', and 'to foster the professional development of science teachers'. SASTA's strength lies in its members who are science teachers and laboratory officers, and in the many highly committed educators who volunteer their time out of school hours to ensure that we continue to serve the needs of all teachers of science.

SASTA has around 500 members and they are drawn from all education sectors, teaching all year levels across the state. SASTA is also fortunate to have a permanent secretariat to ensure the continuing smooth functioning of all aspects of our business.

SASTA develops and maintains close links with employing authorities, businesses, industry and the tertiary education sector. Working closely with such organisations allows us to develop programs, activities and resources that reflect the nature of science in our community.

SASTA greatly appreciates the support and sponsorship it receives from these partners and thanks them for sharing our commitment to effective learning in science.



# THANK YOU AND CONTACT

Thank you for considering this proposal and if you would like any further information or clarification of the above, please do not hesitate to contact the SASTA office by telephone on 8354 0006 or email [kate@sasta.asn.au](mailto:kate@sasta.asn.au)

**We would also like to acknowledge some of our current and past sponsors.**

- Rowe Scientific Pty Ltd
- Department For Education
- Catholic Education SA
- CSIRO
- BHP Foundation
- Defence Science & Technology Group
- Australian Institute of Energy
- Flinders University
- Nature Foundation SA Inc
- Mobile Science Education
- University of South Australia
- Australian Institute Of Physics
- Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Collision & Co
- Royal Australian Chemical Institute
- The University of Adelaide
- SA Country Fire Service (CFS)
- Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience
- SA Tall Poppies
- South Australian Museum
- Wine Australia

We look forward to working with you,

**The Oliphant Science Awards team**

