



DNA Day Previews

Resources for DNA Day

The Community of Genetic Educators (COGE)

The Community of Genetic Educators (COGE) is a national, online community where educators can discuss, collaborate, and find resources of value in teaching genetics in K-12 and collegiate classrooms, as well as in other environments. Special care has been taken to allow teachers to find one another nationally for collaborations and discussions. Sponsored by the NHGRI, the site has launched and is now available at <http://www.coge.nih.gov>.

If you are a K-12 educator and are interested, please contact Jeff Witherly at jlw@mail.nih.gov.

National DNA Day Essay Contest for Middle and High School Students

The Third Annual DNA Day Essay Contest is being sponsored by the American Society for Human Genetics, the Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology, and Applied Biosystems. The contest aims to challenge students to examine, question and reflect on the importance and social implications of genetic research. Essays are expected to contain substantive, well-reasoned arguments indicative of a depth of understanding of the issues addressed by the selected essay question. All students, grades 7-12, are eligible. Every entry will be carefully reviewed.

First Place Winners: \$350.00

Teachers of first place students win \$2,000 to purchase classroom equipment!

Second Place Winners: \$250.00

Third Place Winners: \$150.00

All essays must be received no later than 5PM EST on March 17, 2008. ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE ELECTRONIC. For more information visit http://www.genednet.org/pages/k12_dnaday08.shtml.

Updates

Francis Collins speaks at the 2007 National Association of Biology Teachers Annual Conference

Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., director of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), spoke at this year's National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) annual conference in Atlanta, Ga. As head of the NHGRI, Dr. Collins oversaw the Human Genome Project (HGP), which was the multidisciplinary, multi-institutional, international effort to map and sequence the human genome and determine aspects of its function. Many consider this project to be the most significant scientific undertaking of our time. Dr. Collins presented an overview of the HGP, recent advances, and a new NHGRI educational resource, the Community of Genetic Educators (CoGE). For more about the 2007 NABT National Conference and Dr. Collins' presentation, visit <http://www.nabt.org/>.



If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please contact Carla Easter to be removed from the mailing list. If you know of someone who would like to receive *DNA Day Previews*, please have them contact Carla Easter at easterc@mail.nih.gov.