E-Blast # 1 December 2011

Information on the following items is found below the list.
1. Home Depot 2012 Youth Garden Grants; Deadline: December 11
2. Great American Can Roundup School Challenge; Deadline: December 15
3. K-12: Apply now for the Gustav Ohaus Award Deadline: December 15
4. Gr 6-9 eCYBERMISSION Competition; Deadline: December 16
5. Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators; Deadline: Dec 30
6. National Youth Fishing and Boating Grants; Deadline: December 30
7. Apprentice Ecologist Initiative; Deadline: December 31
8. School Garden Grants; Deadline: December 31
9. Einstein Fellowship; Deadline: January 5
10. K-8 Roy Award for Excellence in Earth Science Teaching; Deadline: January 5
11. Action for Nature Young Eco-Hero Awards; Deadline: January 15
12. Science and the Public Fellows Program; Deadline: January 15
13. National Geographic Hands-on Explorer Challenge; Deadline: January 15
15. School of the Future; Deadline: January 16
17. Middle School Students Sustainable Future Challenge; Deadline February 14
18. Gr 4-6 Siemens Science Day; Entry deadline February 28
19. Gr 6-12 Kavli Save the World Science and Engineering Contest Deadline March 1
20. Dollar General School Library Relief Fund
21. ASEE Releases New Edition of "ENGINEERING, GO FOR IT" Magazine
22. New from LPB a. LearningMedia b. STEP It Up c. PBS Kids Super Why Alpha Burst
23. Gr 1-4 Teachers Love Loop Scoops! Environmental resource
24. Better World Shopper
25. Calendar

   Apply now for the 2012 Youth Garden Grant, sponsored by The Home Depot Garden Club. 100 programs will be selected.
   * 5 programs will receive a $1000 prize!
   * 95 programs will receive a $500 gift card!
   NGA (National Gardening Association) is delighted to announce that The Home Depot Garden Club continues as the Youth Garden Grants (YGG) sponsor. In its 29-year history, the YGG program has helped more than 1.3 million youngsters by supporting youth gardening programs. Thanks to the generosity of The Home Depot Garden Club, 5 winners will receive gift cards valued at $1,000, and 95 winners will receive $500 gift cards, for the purchase of gardening materials and supplies specific to the needs of their program from their local Home Depot store.
   http://www.kidsgardening.org/grants/2012-youth-garden-grants-1

2. Great American Can Roundup School Challenge; Deadline: December 15
The Can Manufacturer's Institute is awarding $1,000 to schools in each state and the District of Columbia recycling the most aluminum cans per student and an additional $5,000 to the top per capita recycling school nationwide.  [http://www.cancentral.com/roundup/](http://www.cancentral.com/roundup/)

3. K-12: Apply now for the Gustav Ohaus Award Deadline December 15  
Ohaus Corporation sponsors this program designed to recognize innovations which have the potential to improve science teaching at the primary, secondary and college levels. These innovations may be in the form of curricula design, teaching strategies, administrative and/or organizational patterns, and laboratory utilization with emphasis on measurement activities.

The Gustav Ohaus Awards Program offers one award winner a trip to the NSTA National Convention, a cash prize of $1500, a personalized Gustav Ohaus award plus other benefits. Winners will be presented their award each year at the National Science Teachers Association's National Convention during an all expense paid dinner with corporate representatives from Ohaus.

Ohaus will also recognize the awardees' school, which will receive Ohaus product (up to $1000) and a school plaque for display at their location.

4. eCYBERMISSION Competition. Deadline for registration is December 16, 2011.  
eCYBERMISSION is a web-based math, science, and technology competition for students in grades 6-9. Students compete for regional and national awards while working to solve problems in their community. The challenges this year include ecosystems, the environment, and more  
[https://www.ecybermission.com/public/Login.aspx](https://www.ecybermission.com/public/Login.aspx)

5. Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators  
The Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators Program, a partnership between the CEQ and the EPA, recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers who employ innovative approaches to environmental education and use the environment as a context for learning for their students. Two teachers from each EPA region will be selected to receive the award. The deadline for application is December 30, 2011.  
[http://www.epa.gov/education/teacheraward/](http://www.epa.gov/education/teacheraward/)

6. National Youth Fishing and Boating Grants  
The Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to growing participation in fishing, boating, and aquatic stewardship. The National Youth Fishing & Boating Initiative is offering boating and fishing education grants for programs which introduce boating and fishing to minorities and underserved communities. Youth-
focused boating, fishing, and conservation organizations are encouraged to apply. The deadline for application is December 30, 2011.
http://www.rbff.org/page.cfm?pageID=376

7. Apprentice Ecologist Initiative
The Apprentice Ecologist Initiative engages youth, parents, and teachers from around the world in environmental stewardship and conservation projects. The goals of the initiative are to elevate young people (especially at-risk and low-income kids and teens) into leadership roles by engaging them in environmental stewardship projects, empower volunteers to rebuild the environmental and social well-being of our communities, and improve local living conditions for both citizens and wildlife. The deadline for entry is December 31, 2011.
http://www.wildernessproject.org/volunteer_apprentice_ecologist.php

8. School Garden Grants School gardens are a vital educational tool. Every seed planted sprouts a new opportunity for kids to cultivate healthy eating habits. Teaching kids to garden helps them learn about complex topics like sustainability and conservation, food systems and community awareness. Not to mention an appreciation for food from seed to plate.

Learning about the process of growing food helps children develop a deep understanding of the connection between healthy eating and a healthy body. School gardens offer an opportunity to integrate math, science and health curriculum into a dynamic, interactive setting. They also provide a base of knowledge that allows children to take an active role in healthy food choices.

School garden grant applications will be accepted through 5pm CST, December 31, 2011. Learn more about the application process at:
http://wholekidsfoundation.org/gardengrants.php

9. Einstein Fellowship The deadline for application is January 5, 2012.
The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship is a paid fellowship for K-12 math, science, and technology teachers. Einstein Fellows spend a school year in Washington, D.C. serving in a federal agency or on Capitol Hill.
http://www.trianglecoalition.org/einstein-fellows/einstein-fellow-application-process/application

10. Edward C. Roy, Jr. Award for Excellence in K-8 Earth Science Teaching
This award from the American Geological Institute is designed to recognize one teacher of grades K-8 for his or her leadership and innovation in Earth science education. The deadline for application is January 10, 2012.
http://www.agiweb.org/education/awards/ed-roy/
11. Action for Nature Young Eco-Hero Awards
Action for Nature seeks applications from students ages 8-16 for its International Young Eco-Hero Awards Program. The awards program recognizes the individual accomplishments of young people whose personal actions have significantly improved the environment. Projects must concern advocacy, environmental health, research, or protection of the natural world. The deadline for application is January 15, 2012. http://www.actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2011-application-guidelines

The Society for Science & the Public Fellows Program provides funds and training to selected U.S. science and math teachers who serve under-resourced students, to enable interested and motivated students to perform independent scientific research. Fellows may serve up to four years. http://www.societyforscience.org/outreach

13. National Geographic Hands-on Explorer Challenge
To enter the National Geographic Hands-on Explorer Challenge, students 9-14 should write an original personal essay explaining how they explore your world; what it is about exploration that inspires and excites them, and document it by photo. The deadline for submission is January 15, 2012. http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/contests/explorer-trip-2012/

Action for Nature is proud to honor the work of young people between the ages of 8 and 16 who have done creative environmental projects. The winners of AFN’s International Young Eco-Hero Awards program receive a cash prize and a special certificate, as well as public recognition on our Web site and elsewhere. This is a great chance for you to share your environmental activism and creative work. We look forward to again supporting young people from all around the world working to save our planet. Please visit: http://www.actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards

15. School of the Future; Deadline January 16
School Building Week's School of the Future Design Competition, open to middle school students, challenges student teams to design their schools following a planning process from the concept phase to completion of the project. The competition highlights the importance of well-planned, high performance, healthy, safe, and sustainable schools that foster student achievement and enhance community vitality http://www.cefpi.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3550

Research Teacher Fellows Program: www.frontiersinphys.org
Eligibility: Middle and high school science teachers in U.S. schools
Dates: Fellowship year: April 2012 - April 2013
Notifications: March 2012
Fellowship payments: · $5,700 for research work and assignments
     · $300 for a classroom materials grant
     · Travel expenses to Experimental Biology, Boston, MA, April 20-24, 2013

EXPLORE Effective Teaching Strategies.
EXPERIENCE the Research Process
ENHANCE Your Classroom Materials.
     · transform cookbook labs into engaging student-centered, inquiry-based lessons
     · align lessons to your state and national science education standards

PROGRAM INFORMATION AND APPLICATION: www.frontiersinphys.org. Look for the “HOW TO APPLY” GUIDE document at the Research Teacher Fellows program website.
Contact the Interim K-12 Programs Coordinator: Margaret Shain: mshain@the-aps.org

17. Middle School Students Sustainable Future Challenge; Deadline February 14
The I-SWEEEP 3E Sustainable Future Challenge is a national contest for middle school students that aims to create a platform for young researchers in which they present their innovative projects to take on today’s challenges in energy, engineering, and environment. http://www.isweeep.org/3e-contest

18. Gr 4-6 Siemens Science Day; Entry deadline February 28
In 2008, Siemens Foundation and Discovery Education launched a Website emphasizing the importance of math and science in grades 4–6 through a day of free, fun and engaging hands-on science activities. Now in its fourth year, Siemens Science Day has expanded to reach all elementary students and teachers through engaging digital content and the chance to win an Ultimate Cool School Assembly. New standards-aligned science resources, hands-on activities and videos are available for K–6 classrooms. http://www.siemensscienceday.com/

19. Kavli Save the World Through Science and Engineering Video Contest
The Kavli Foundation is challenging Grades 6-12 students across the world to brainstorm and share their ideas! This year's contest theme is inspired the National Academy of Engineering's Grand Challenges. The NAE recently asked some of the world's leading technological thinkers to identify what needs to be done to make people and our planet thrive.

Students worldwide are invited to submit entries to the 2012 video contest, with cash awards and prizes for the top entries. The best videos will be shown at the Festival Expo during April 27-29, 2012, where hundreds of thousands of science fans are
expected to gather in Washington, D.C. The first place winner will also receive a travel stipend to attend the Expo. The deadline to enter is March 1, 2012. For information http://www.usasciencefestival.org/2012festival/contests/kavli-video-contest

20. Dollar General School Library Relief Fund
Dollar General and partners sponsor a school library disaster relief fund for public school libraries in the states served by Dollar General. The fund provides grants to public schools whose school library program has been affected by a disaster. Grants are to replace or supplement books, media, or library equipment in the school library setting. Applications are reviewed monthly.
http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslawards/beyondwords/disasterrelief.cfm

21. ASEE Releases New Edition of "ENGINEERING, GO FOR IT" Magazine
What do the blockbuster movie Avatar, high-performance sports gear, the Angry Birds phone app, and pollution-eating bacteria have in common? They are among a host of fascinating innovations developed by engineers and featured in the newest edition of the American Society for Engineering Education's (ASEE) Engineering, Go For It (eGFI) magazine. The publication is available online. The kid-friendly magazine is part of ASEE’s campaign to inspire more K-12 students, particularly young women and underrepresented minorities, to pursue engineering careers. Illustrating how engineers make a difference in the world, the new edition includes:
- Stories featuring robots that imitate animals, Hollywood special effects, clean energy innovations, and technological advances giving athletes a winning edge.
- Engaging profiles on an array of engineering careers and disciplines.
- Fresh, cutting-edge examples of engineering innovations that are transforming fields from aerospace and medical care to architecture and materials science.
- Interviews with eight students currently participating in the Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship sponsored by the Department of Defense and administered by ASEE.

22. New from LPB
a. LearningMedia, LPB's new educational website. Now all resources for all age groups link off our single page at www.lpb.org/education. So if you are looking for electronic field trips, streaming videos, webinars, events, courses, GED, etc., you will find it there. Bookmark the page and keep watching because soon we will be providing you with a wonderful new resource!

b. STEP IT UP! for teens and tweens. The site www.lpb.org/stepitup, developed by LPB and funded by a grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana, will help teens and tweens control and reduce their weight. It provides information from health professionals to motivate and encourage young people to get active and eat healthier. Handy excerpts from LPB’s program Kids: Trying to Trim Down and our series Step by Step: Kids Trimming Down can be accessed on the site. Students, teachers and parents
will be able to ask questions on the site that will be answered by health professionals. Tips will be provided to help tackle the problem of childhood obesity. You don’t have to be a teen to benefit. Everyone is welcome to log on to the free site www.lpb.org/stepitup and take part in the program. It might be great to start the new school year by doing something nice for yourself. We can all Step It Up!

c. PBS KIDS has announced the release of the new “SUPER WHY Alpha Boost!” app for the iPhone and iPod touch. In this game, children search the skies for super letters to complete party-themed words, reinforcing letter recognition and sounds. The new app, available now at the App Store, is based on SUPER WHY, the award-winning hit preschool series that helps children build critical literacy skills through immersive and entertaining storybook adventures. Children can play the game as Super Why, Princess Presto, Wonder Red or Alpha Pig. With over 100 party-themed words and five kinds of parties, "Alpha Boost!" provides hours of fun that reinforce letter recognition and letter sounds.

23. Gr 1-4 Teachers Love Loop Scoops! Environmental resource
Check out what elementary school teachers are saying about their classroom experiences with Loop Scoops, a collection of videos and lesson plans that help students think more deeply about the stuff that they use.
"The children really connected to the Garbage video because they were able to think about stuff in their own room that may have been thrown away but now they have some options to consider."
What's the most popular Loop Scoops video on Teachers' Domain? A short video called Happiness. It's guaranteed to make you smile.

24. BETTER WORLD SHOPPER is a site dedicated to providing people with a comprehensive, up-to-date, reliable account of the social and environmental responsibility of every company on the planet AND making it available in practical forms that individuals can use in their everyday lives. Coming out of more than 5 years of intensive research, this work is based on a comprehensive database of over 1000 companies and utilizes 25+ reliable sources of data to cover everything from the environment to human rights, community development to animal protection. http://www.betterworldshopper.com/

25. Calendar
December 9, 2011: Deadline for K-12 Teachers to apply for the LOFT Best in Class Grants. Please visit: http://www.kinf.org

December 15: Deadline to apply for the Gustav Ohaus Award  

December 16: Deadline to register for the Mars Education Challenge  
http://www.exploremars.org/page/mars-education-challenge/

December 19, 2011: Deadline for students between the ages 9 – 18 to apply to attend Space Camp on a scholarship. Please visit:  
http://www.spacecamp.com/scholarships

December 23: Deadline to register for Disney’s Planet Challenge  
http://disney.go.com/planetchallenge/

December 30: Deadline to submit application for an EPA Teacher Award  
http://epa.gov/education/teacheraward/index.html

December 31, 2011: Deadline to apply for School Garden Grants. Please visit:  
http://wholekidsfoundation.org/gardengrants.php

------

2012
------

January 3: Deadline to register for the 2011 OPTIMUS PRIME Spinoff Video Contest  
http://ipp.gsfc.nasa.gov/optimus

January 5: Deadline to apply for the Einstein Fellowship Program  
http://www.einsteinfellows.org

January 15: Deadline to submit proposal for NSTA Louisville Regional  
http://nsta.org/conferences/sessions.aspx?lid=tnavhp

January 15, 2012: Deadline for students ages 8 – 16 to apply to be honored as a Young Eco-Hero.  
http://www.actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards

January 16: Deadline to apply for the Alan Shepard Technology in Education Award  
http://www.amfcse.org/Alan%20Shepard%20Award/alan_shepard_award.htm

January 17: Deadline to submit entries in the OPTIMUS PRIME Spinoff Video Contest  
http://ipp.gsfc.nasa.gov/optimus

January 30, 2012: Deadline for High School Students to apply for the Summer 2012 NASA Develop Program.  
http://develop.larc.nasa.gov/

February 12, 2012: Deadline for K-12 Teachers to apply for the Toshiba/NSTA Exploravision Program.  
http://www.exploravision.org/
February 28: Deadline to enter the Siemens Science Day competition
http://www.siemensscienceday.com/

March 1, 2012: Deadline for students in grades 6-12 to enter the Kavli Save the World Through Science and Engineering Video Contest. http://www.usasciencefestival.org/2012festival/contests/kavli-video-contest


March 12: Deadline to enter the Samsung “Solve for Tomorrow” competition https://pages.samsung.com/us/sft/home.htm

March 15, 2012: Deadline for K-12 Students to enter the Siemen’s We Can Change the World Challenge. http://www.wecanchange.com/


March 29 – April 1: NSTA National Conference in Indianapolis, IN http://www.nsta.org/conferences/2012ind/

April 2: Deadline to enter Rubber Band contest for young inventors http://www.rubberbandcontest.org

E-Blast contact: jean.may-brett@la.gov