

**Mission Statement:** The Council for Elementary Science International promotes excellence and equity in K-8 science education.



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Alan McCormack, Retiring President, Larry Lowery, Professor Emeritus, University of California, Berkley, Luncheon Speaker at CESI Luncheon, NSTA 2009 National Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana, and Kay Atchison Warfield, Incoming Presi-

**2009 Area Conferences**

- **Minneapolis, MN: October 29–31**  
**Share-A-Thon**  
**Tim Cooney, Luncheon Speaker**  
Friday, October 30th, 12 noon to 2 pm. Registration : \$45 advance, \$50 on site.
- **Fort Lauderdale, FL: November 12–14**  
**Executive Board Meeting**, TBA, 3-9 pm  
**Get the Scoop on CESI**  
Friday, November 13, 9:30 to 10:30 am  
**Breakfast—Girls Engaged in Math and Science**, Shannon Parks and Stephanie Baird  
Nov 4, 7:30 to 9 am, Broward County CC Palm A/B, \$28 Advance/CESI tickets
- **Phoenix, AZ: December 3–5**  
**Get the Scoop on CESI**,  
Thursday, December 3, 12:30-1:30 pm

**Share-A-Thon**, Friday, December 4, 8-9 am  
**Luncheon** Alan McCormack, NSTA President Elect, *Dumbledore's Transfiguration Class*, December 4th, 12-2 pm  
LaVeen A, Sheraton

**Future NSTA National Conventions**

- Philadelphia, PA: March 18-21, 2010
- San Francisco, CA: March 9–12, 2011
- Indianapolis, IN: March 29-April 1, 2012

**2010 Area Conferences**

- Kansas City, MO: October 28–30
- Baltimore, MD: November 11–13
- Nashville, TN: December 2–4

**2011 Area Conferences**

- Hartford, CT: October 27–29
- Denver, CO: November 17–19
- Seattle, WA: December 8–10

**2012 Area Conferences**

- Louisville, KY: October 18-20
- Las Vegas, NV: December 6-8

**International Conferences**

For more information on International news, see page 6.

**Science on Stage Festival**

Berlin, Germany June 19-21, 2009

**The Association for Science Education**

University of Nottingham, UK

January 7-9, 2010

[http://www.ase.org.uk/htm/conferences/annual\\_conference\\_2010/index.php](http://www.ase.org.uk/htm/conferences/annual_conference_2010/index.php)

**ICASE Call for Papers—CESI Sessions**

June 28-July 2, 2010

University of Tartu, Estonia

Contact Sue Dale Tunnicliffe for more information.

[lady.tunnicliffe@mac.com](mailto:lady.tunnicliffe@mac.com)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
 Kay Atchison Warfield, CESI President



partnerships who will support the goals of CESI. Corporate sponsorship can make our Share-A-Thons, luncheons/breakfasts, and elementary science days more accessible to classroom teachers. We need corporate sponsors who share our vision of promoting excellence and equity in science education from all points on the globe to host international summits for PreK teachers and teacher educators. Only through rich dialogue, can we corporately share and develop effective science education for our children.

In our next newsletter we will have more information on how to serve on CESI special committees and task forces to strengthen our organization. My special goal is to take the oldest science education organization to new heights as a visible and active group of enthusiastic educators. I need the assistance of all of you to improve our organization.

Two international conferences are on the horizon and the information for proposal submissions are included in this issue. See pages 6 and 18 for the proposal submission requirements.

To take our organization to new heights, we welcome corporate and individual sponsors. Please contact me for information on how to become a sponsor of the oldest science education organization. Some of the important projects discussed as possible service projects for CESI are: provide safety guidelines for PreK-8 teachers, providing professional development and additional support for teachers across the globe utilizing distance learning technologies, and host an International Science Education Summit in Australia next year.

I look forward to working with you in making CESI *the* organization for PreK-8 teachers!

Kay Atchison Warfield, CESI President

CESI is the venue to serve teachers directly with professional development opportunities, coaching and mentoring, networking and collaborative teaching techniques. A united voice will ensure that the public hails PreK-8 science as an integral component in the educational design for competing in an international society/economy.

As I reflect on a vision for CESI for the next two years I envision PreK-8 teacher receiving classroom and professional support as these teachers embrace the state, national, and international demands for accountability, especially in the area of special needs students.

CESI needs to investigate ideas outside the traditional perimeters such as webinars, or distance learning for professional development and networking and work to establish and maintain business

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**MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

**Barbara Z. Tharp, President Elect, M.S.**, is an Assistant Professor in the School of Allied Health at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM). Before joining BCM, she taught grades 1–5 in the Houston Independent School District, both as a classroom teacher and as a Science Lab Specialist. Ms. Tharp is a primary author and teacher-trainer for BCM’s curriculum development projects including BrainLink, MyWorld, My World and Me, and The Science of... Series. In addition, she develops, coordinates and implements several of the College’s teacher professional development programs including the Science Education Leadership Fellows Program funded by a grant from Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and the Houston Independent School District/BCM Science Learning and Leadership Collaborative funded by HISD. She developed several programs in partnership with Rice University including serving as a Master Teacher in the School Mathematics Project and the Mathematics/Science Leadership Program. Ms. Tharp has served as President of the Texas Council for Elementary Education and the Houston Metropolitan Association of Teachers of Science. Ms. Tharp is a Fellow of the National Science Leadership Academy and served on the National Science Teachers Association’s Committee for Professional Development.

**Marilyn Cook, Board of Directors 2010-2012** is interested in increasing the information on teaching science with children’s literature. She is the Editor of *Dillo Press*, the Texas Council of Elementary Science (TCES) newsletter. She has served as a member of Science Teachers Association of Texas Science (STAT) TEKS Review Committee. She received the Meritorious Service Award – Texas Council of Elementary Science (TCES) and the Dorothy Lohmann Award – TCES

**Dr. Renée G. O’Leary, Board of Directors 2010-2012** has dedicated almost 50 years to teaching very young children and the adults who work with them. Her career has been one of constant growth and accomplishment with the publication of

*P.A.S.S.© (Portable Affordable Simple Science), Level I* in 1993 and Level II in 1997, followed by *B.L.A.S.T.© (Bringing Literature and Science Together), Level I* and *B.L.A.S.T.©, Level II*. The latest revision to the *P.A.S.S.©, Level I* program was the addition of activities and materials for preschool (below kindergarten) children. Her commitment to lifelong learning was exemplified through the completion of her Ph.D. in Elementary Education with a concentration in Early Childhood Science in May 1998. She was Delaware Teacher of the Year in 1982 and has won numerous major awards for her creative teaching program development and community service. The many awards Renée has earned include the following: the *Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Award* (1991), *Presidential Award for Excellence in Elementary Science Teaching* (1991), the *National Sate Farm “Good Neighbor Award”* (1992), *National Teacher’s Hall of Fame* inductee (1994), *Association for Science Education International Conference* presenter (1999 to present), *Dolly Parton’s Chasing Rainbows Award* (2003), *National Lysol and Your Health Award* (2004) and *Millersville University 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Distinguished Alumni Award* (2005). Renée continues her teaching and program development as the Early Childhood Science Resource Teacher at Caravel Academy in Bear, Delaware.

Interested in serving on the CESI Board? See page 9 for nomination forms and requirements for CESI Directors.

Other opportunities for involvement with CESI include serving on standing committees and special committees. Special committees include: communications, corporate liaisons, elementary level education, middle level education, multicultural connections, outreach, Pre-K/early childhood, pre-service, professional development, research, and retired teachers.

*Contact Information (continued from page 2)*

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*For complete contact information, see CESI website.*

<http://www.cesiscience.org>

**CESI LUNCHEON NSTA NATIONAL 2009: New Orleans**

**“Science is a Verb”**

Highlights from Dr. Lawrence Lowry’s Keynote at the

These ways of knowing are common to all humans no matter their culture.

Science knowledge is both *What we know* and *How we know it*. Science includes *observing* in which data enters the brain through the five senses.

Therefore, *science is an active process* by which we know something. *To conjugate science:*

Humans are the only species that can store and build on knowledge across generations, which is the way we are able to discuss the ideas of Plato today through *communicating*.

I science...  
 You science...  
 He sciences...  
 She sciences...

We science...  
 They science...  
 You (plural) science  
 Ya’ll science (in Louisiana!)

Humans *compare* objects through critical comparators, which give us more information than a single object. When we compare, we add details and when we use critical comparators, we add additional fine details.

**Science is a VERB!**

Submitted by Betty Crocker

When we *organize* data, we are able to focus on the properties. We organize with verbs including: *serial ordering, sequencing, grouping/classifying (two different but related skills), relating, and inferring*.



Left: Dr. Lawrence Lowry, Keynote Speaker, Cesi Luncheon, NSTA National Conference, New Orleans, 2009. If you have used FOSS kits, you understand just how committed Dr. Lowry to making **Science a Verb!**

Upper Right and Right: Past President, Dr. Alan McCormack wows crowds with his science magic tricks in his *Dumbledore’s Transfiguration Class*

If you missed these sessions, register early and join us for Cesi Luncheon in Phoenix during the NSTA Area conferences. See you there!



**CESI SHARE-A-THON NSTA NATIONAL 2009: New Orleans**



Top Left and Top Right: Share-A-Thon participants and presenters

Middle Left: *Johannes Kepler*, aka John McFarland;  
Middle Right: Share-A-Thon participant

Bottom Left: Kevin Wise, Coffee Can Speakers;  
Bottom Right: : Kalli Terry, presenter and pre-service student, The University of Alabama

Photographs by Hans Perrson and Cheryl Sundberg

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS****Berlin, Germany June 19-21**

The famous "Science on Stage" festival was held in Berlin, Germany, June 19-21. One of the topics of interest to CESI members was "Science in kindergarten and primary school." For more information on other activities visit the following website: [www.science-on-stage.de](http://www.science-on-stage.de) or Contact: [info@sciencein-on-stage.de](mailto:info@sciencein-on-stage.de)

The week after that, June 20-26, a Science Festival in Saarbrücken was held in Germany. It's called the **Science Summer 2009**, and was aimed at the general public. Besides a science film festival and science theatre for children, there were 50 stations with hands-on experiments. The event was organised by Wissenschaft im Dialog.

**United Kingdom**

As well as running the annual conference in January every year, ASE (the Association for Science Education) also holds an area conference. Go to [http://www.ase.org.uk/html/conferences/area\\_meetings/venues\\_dates.php](http://www.ase.org.uk/html/conferences/area_meetings/venues_dates.php) and check for dates and venues for this year. The conferences start June 10 and continue until October 20.

Next year the Annual conference for ASE will be held from Thursday 7 to Saturday 9 January 2010 at the University of Nottingham. Registration, call for presenters and conference information is found at:

[http://www.ase.org.uk/html/conferences/annual\\_conference\\_2010/index.php](http://www.ase.org.uk/html/conferences/annual_conference_2010/index.php)

In addition, ASE's provides many useful resources. Visit the website at:

[www.ase.org.uk](http://www.ase.org.uk)

and click on Resources, way up on the right side of the site.

If you are interested in more information on international conferences and other international science news, please keep in touch. You can find my contact details and more information about my International activities to promote primary science at my homepage [www.hanper.se](http://www.hanper.se)

Submitted by: Hans Persson, University of Stockholm, Sweden

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES****ICASE Call for Papers—CESI Sessions**

June 28-July 2, 2010, University of Tartu, Estonia

Contact for more information

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**NASA Space Place Newsletter**

<http://spaceplace.jpl.nasa.gov/en/educators/>

Museums and parks typically offer summer educational programs for adults and children:

**Directory to Museums Online.**

<http://www.museumstuff.com/museums/>

**Parks in Europe**

[http://usparks.about.com/od/parksineurope/Parks\\_in\\_Europe.htm](http://usparks.about.com/od/parksineurope/Parks_in_Europe.htm)

**United States National Park Service**

<http://www.nps.gov/>

**Take Classes in Yellowstone National Park from Yellowstone Institute**

<http://www.yellowstoneassociation.org/about/>

**National Parks Australia**

[http://www.outback-australia-travel-secrets.com/national\\_parks\\_australia.html](http://www.outback-australia-travel-secrets.com/national_parks_australia.html)

**Africa's National Parks Page**

<http://www.world-national-parks.net/af/af.htm>

**Parks in China**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Parks\\_in\\_China](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Parks_in_China)

**Parks in India**

<http://www.indianwildlifeportal.com/national-parks/>

**Parks in Peril, South America**

<http://parksinperil.org/wherewework/southamerica/index.html>

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Annenberg/CPB** produces educational video programs with coordinated Web and print materials for K-12 teachers who are increasing their expertise in their fields and learning how to improve their teaching methods. Learning modules are usually organized into 8 2-hour sessions, with a leader's guide and workshop facilitation instructions included. Videos can be downloaded and used FREE OF CHARGE, or you can purchase the video sets.  
<http://learner.org>

**Teachers' Domain** Professional Development courses are produced by WGBH Educational Foundation, Boston's PBS station, and developed by educators and advisors specializing in science teaching. Each research-based course builds upon what participants already know and enables them to take an active role in their own learning. In addition to readings, online discussions (forums), classroom videos, and assignments, these 8-session courses utilize multimedia resources including clips from public broadcasting, videos, and interactive programming from sources such as *NOVA*, *ZOOM*, and *Building Big*.  
<http://www.teachersdomain.org>

**Jason Academy** Each online course requires 6-10 hours per week (30-50 hours per course). This time is spent reading online text, exploring course-related websites, posting messages on discussion boards, and preparing and conducting student activities. JASON Academy courses are asynchronous, so teachers may take them at their most convenient time of day.  
<http://www.jason.org/public/home.aspx>

**National Teachers Enhancement Network. Graduate-Level Professional Development.**  
<http://www.scienceteacher.org/forum.htm>  
 Take an online course and earn one graduate semester credit. Our courses support teaching based on national standards. We offer courses that enhance teaching in three science strands. Our courses expand on the science concepts taught by many of today's popular science kits.

- Life Science. We have courses on entomology, botany, and food and nutrition.
- Earth and Space Science. We have courses on astronomy, ecosystems, soil science, landforms, and weather.
- Physical Science. We have courses on motion, force, sound, and electricity.

[www.scienceteacher.org](http://www.scienceteacher.org)

**Zoom Book: Slide Share** - Looks can be deceiving and takes a step back to see the full picture. Use slides from Istvan Banyai's book *Zoom* to explore the concept of scale.  
<http://www.slideshare.net/profman/zoom-67030>

**Powers of 10** – Use the powers of ten to explore the relationship of size between things microscopic and cosmic.  
<http://www.powersof10.com/>

**Private Eye** - Access a gallery of writing samples and drawings made by students using "The Private Eye" inquiry process.  
<http://www.the-private-eye.com/html/galleries/galmenu.html>

**The Important Book Lesson: Scholastic** – Use *The Important Book* by Margaret Wise Brown to reinforce science concept following a poem template.

**Photo Challenge: Guess What?** - Use images from this photo bank to challenge students to identify the object.  
<http://www.jpgmag.com/themes/124/all>

**Patterns in Nature: National Geographic Photography** – Amazing photos of rocks, shells, landforms and many other natural objects are cataloged on this site.  
<http://photography.nationalgeographic.com/photography/photogalleries/patterns-in-nature>

**Teacher to Teacher** Workshops offer classroom teachers a free opportunity to participate in high-quality professional development designed to provide the classroom support, technical assistance, and increased collaboration needed to assure academic success for all students.  
<http://www.t2tweb.us/Workshops/Sessions.asp?SessionID=238>

**Sciencegeekgirl**  
 A variety of professional development opportunities for teachers. <http://blog.sciencegeekgirl.com/2009/04/25/more-professional-development-opportunities-for-teachers-ongoing/>

Submitted by Barbara Tharp, President Elect

## OTHER NEWS, GRANTS, AND LINKS

Linda Froschauer, former NSTA President, will be the new field editor for *Science and Children*. The current Call for Papers is available online: <http://www.nsta.org/publications/call-sc.aspx>.

### Education Grants Calendar 2009-2010 School Year

#### August 2009

8/1: American Honda Foundation Grant  
<http://corporate.honda.com/america/>

8/3: Toshiba Large Grants  
[www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp](http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp)

#### September 2009

9/15: Ezra Jack Keats Foundation Mini-Grants  
[www.ezra-jack-keats.org/programs/minigrant.html](http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/programs/minigrant.html)

9/30: Captain Planet Foundation Grants  
[www.captainplanetfdn.org](http://www.captainplanetfdn.org)

#### October 2009

10/1: Toshiba Small Grants Program (for K-6)  
[www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp](http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp)

10/6: Walden University Educator for a Day Grants  
[http://www.waldenu.edu/c/Schools/Schools\\_12149.htm](http://www.waldenu.edu/c/Schools/Schools_12149.htm)

10/15: NEA Foundation  
Student Achievement Grants  
Learning & Leadership Grants  
[www.nfie.org](http://www.nfie.org)

10/17: Lowe's Toolbox for Education  
[www.toolboxforeducation.com](http://www.toolboxforeducation.com)

#### November 2009

11/1: American Honda Foundation Grant  
<http://corporate.honda.com/america/>

11/1: International Reading Association  
Ronald W. Mitchell Convention Travel Grant  
[www.reading.org](http://www.reading.org)

11/28: SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards\*  
[www.seaworld.org](http://www.seaworld.org)

11/30: Vernier/NSTA Technology Awards  
[www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx](http://www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx)

#### December 2009

12/1: Association for Library Service to Children's (ALSC) Awards

• Distinguished Service Award  
[www.ala.org/alsc](http://www.ala.org/alsc)

#### Howard University B.E.S.T. Program

Howard University's Black Excellence in Science/Math Teaching (B.E.S.T.) study is recruiting African American Secondary science and math teachers to participate in interviews about their pathways to teaching. To sign up:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Lob\\_2f8k25TVPvD3eDUJqjKQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Lob_2f8k25TVPvD3eDUJqjKQ_3d_3d)

#### NASA Space Place Newsletter

<http://spaceplace.jpl.nasa.gov/en/educators/>

#### NSTA Express

<http://www.nsta.org/publications/archive-express.aspx>

#### NSTA Position Statement on—International Science Education and the National Science Teachers Association

<http://www.nsta.org/about/positions/international.aspx>

#### National Council for Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)

NCTM National Conference  
San Diego, CA, April 21-24, 2010

NCTM National Conference  
Indianapolis, IN, April 13-16, 2011

#### Alabama Science Teachers Association

ASTA State Conference, October 20, 2009, McWane Science Center, Birmingham, Alabama

For more information on ASTA convention and nominations for ASTA Science Teachers' Awards:

<http://www.asta.auburn.edu/>

#### Free science lesson plans:

Alabama Learning Exchange—<http://alex.state.al.us/index.php>



**CESI NOMINATION FORM**

CESI is now accepting nominations for **CESI Board of Directors** positions for 2011-2013 and CESI Standing Committees. We are especially interested in people who will be willing to work hard for CESI and who have a desire to contribute to the improvement of elementary science. Self nominations are also accepted.

**Board of Directors (2011-2013)**

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number

Email Address:

**CESI Standing Committees**

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number

Email Address:

**Include a biography (no more than 250 words).**

**Include a mission statement (no more than 250 words).**

**Please return (postmarked or email) by November 1, 2009 to:**

Barbara Tharp, President-Elect  
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Center for Educational Outreach  
Baylor College of Medicine  
One Baylor Plaza, MS: BCM 411  
Houston, Texas 77030-43411

## CESI 2009 WINNERS CIRCLE

Who will be this year's winners? Nominate exemplary, well deserving colleagues for our CESI Awards.

Meet our 2009 Award winners:

**Vana Richards**, The deVinci Academy, Emmett, ID was the 2009 CESI/CIBA Foundation Elementary Teacher of Outstanding Science Teaching. Ms. Richards has over 35 years of teaching experience.

**Breigh D. Rainey**, Zachary Elementary School, Gonzales, LA is this years recipient of the Muriel Green Award for outstanding pre-service and in-service pre-K-8 teachers in their first five years of service.

Additional information about the winners for 2009 and information for nominations for the 2010 awards can be found on the CESI website. A list of award winners for past years are provided as well:

<http://www.cesiscience.org/>

On page 12 in this newsletter is an activity on sound provided by Breigh D. Rainey, Muriel Green Awardee.

## NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MARY McCURDY INTERNATIONAL AWARD

**Award Recipients:** [Mary McCurdy International Award Recipients](#)

The Endowed March C. McCurdy International Award is awarded to individuals who encourage international understanding by providing global educational opportunities and experiences in elementary science education. Examples are, but not limited to: 1) educational scholarships; 2) professional development opportunities; 3) leadership training.

Proposals may be received from teachers with 5 years experience who have demonstrated contributions to elementary science, education students and teachers with less than 5 years of experience who have set goals to make contributions to elementary science education, schools with an elementary science plan and a goal of completion within ten years, any country. Awards may include: specific amounts of money depending upon the availability of funds, elementary science education materials, membership in CESI. Maximum request for funding will be \$1,500.

### Provisions:

Awards will be made from the interest on the principle as set forth in the application.

Reports will be made to the CESI Board of Directors and the Mary McCurdy family.

Awards will be determined by a reader review committee established by the Awards Chair.

International linkages may be established by awarding of grants or CESI memberships.

Applications

For further information, please contact

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## NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CESI OUTSTANDING AWARDS

### CESI MURIEL GREEN AWARD

#### New Elementary Science Teachers or Pre-service Teaching Award

The Muriel Green Award recognizes outstanding new elementary science teachers/pre-service teachers. It assists them in becoming more active in the science education community. Awardees will receive a two-year membership in CESI, complimentary tickets to the CESI Annual Luncheon at the NSTA National Convention, a CESI Sourcebook, a CESI pin and recognition in national publications.

#### Eligibility and Procedures

1. Applicant must be an undergraduate senior in elementary education who intends to teach science; full-time or part-time graduate student enrolled in an academic program leading to a degree licensure, or certification in some area of science education; or an elementary teacher with an interest in science and who is in the first five years of service.
2. Applicants must be nominated by a current CESI member. The nominator must complete an evaluation form and write a letter of recommendation.
3. Return packets to insert name at the address listed below.

#### Nomination Procedures

1. The nomination questionnaire must be completed by the nominator. The nominator must write a paragraph or two describing why you have nominated the candidate and describing why he or she will be an outstanding elementary science teacher.
2. The candidate should write and sign a one-page essay. The essay should address three points: goals for teaching elementary science, types of methods you use in teaching science, and why teaching science to elementary students is important.

#### Exemplary Elementary Science Teaching Award

The Exemplary Elementary Science Teaching Award is presented by the Council of Elementary Science International, a Division Affiliate of the National Science Teachers Association, and sponsored by the CIBA Specialty Chemicals Education Foundation. The Award is bestowed annually at the elementary luncheon of the NSTA Annual Convention to an elementary teacher who has demonstrated exemplary science teaching performance by creating science materials; and/or

using science materials/ and/or designing teaching plans and ideas; and/or fostering student, school, and school-community or school-wide instructional programs in science. Criteria for eligibility for the competition and procedures are described below.

#### Composition of the Award

The Award consists of a \$1,000 prize from CIBA Specialty Chemical Education Foundation, 1-year membership to CESI, an expense-paid trip (up to \$500) to the NSTA National Convention, and encouraged publication of a report describing the awardee's work in *Science and Children*.

#### Eligibility and Procedures

1. Entrants must be full-time classroom teachers with all the responsibilities of such position. Teachers in preschool through grade six may enter. The exemplary teaching described must be the entrant's original work.
  2. A description of the exemplary elementary science technique(s), innovations, and/or program(s), not to exceed four type-written pages, approximately 1,000 words.
  3. Provide three letters of support corroborating the description from individuals or groups who are familiar with the exemplary science teaching of the applicant.
- Supplemental sample materials, documents, and/or photographs are encouraged. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want these materials returned.

#### Exemplary Elementary Science Principal Award

The Exemplary Elementary Principal Award for Leadership in Science Education is presented by the Council for Elementary Science International, a Division Affiliate of the National Science Teachers Association, and Sponsored by the CIBA Specialty Chemicals Education Foundation. The Award is bestowed annually at the elementary luncheon of the NSTA Annual Convention to an elementary principal who has demonstrated leadership in the development, implementation, and maintenance of an outstanding elementary science program; supported staff development in science; promoted positive relationships between school's science programs and the community; and has been an advocate and leader for the development of science process skills and positive attitudes toward science among children, teachers, and parents. Criteria for eligibility for the competition and

procedures are described below.

#### Composition of the Award

The Award consists of a \$1,000 prize from CIBA Specialty

- Chemicals Education Foundation, 1-year complimentary membership in CESI, an expense-paid trip (up to % 500) to the NSTA National Convention, and encouraged public exemplary science leadership of the applicant. Supplemental sample materials, documents, and/or photographs are encouraged. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want these materials returned.

#### Calendar

Entries must be received by **November 15, 2007**. Notification will be by late January. The award presentation will be at the NSTA National convention at the CESI/NSTA Luncheon.

#### Judging

Final judging is by a panel of outstanding science educators selected by the Council for Elementary Science International, a Division Affiliate of the National Science Teachers Association.

#### Application

Applications are available at the NSTA National and Regional Conventions prior to the due date and on the CESI Web Page. Completed packets must be received by **November 15, 2007**.

**No fax or E-mail packets accepted.**

#### Eligibility and Procedures

1. Entrants must be full-time principals with all the responsibilities of such a position. Principals in pre-school through six-grade may enter.
2. The ten questions of the exemplary elementary principal must be answered in the space provided in the application. Provide three letters of support corroborating the description from individuals or groups who are familiar with the exemplary science teaching of the applicant.

Supplemental sample materials, documents, and/or photographs are encouraged. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want these materials returned.

Complete applications online at:

<http://www.cesiscience.org/>

**NOTE: All awardees will write an article for the CESI Newsletter.**

**ACTIVITY FROM BREIGH RAINEY, 2009 MURIEL GREEN AWARD WINNER**

**Grade Level:** Second or Third Grade

**Objectives:**

- The student will classify sound as a form of energy that is caused by vibrations (analysis).
- The student will explain how the volume of a sound is dependent upon the size (amplitude) of the vibration (evaluation).

**Content Connections:**

Sound and energy

**Background Information:**

Prior to this lesson, the students should have been introduced to energy in order to gain a basic understanding of the concept of energy. The students should also have a basic understanding of quantitative data collection and measurement methods. This lesson is an introduction to sound, so no background content knowledge on sound is needed for this particular lesson. A helpful, but not necessary skill that would be of benefit for this lesson would be student familiarity with using calculator based laboratory equipment to collect data.

**Materials**

- Various musical instruments (at least 8)
- Detective list
- Drums (8) and drumsticks (8 pairs)
- Rice
- Ruler
- Calculator based laboratory (9) and extra batteries for calculator based laboratory equipment
- "Phones" made from plastic cups, string, paper clips, and tape

**Engage:**

The teacher will begin the lesson by explaining to the students that she has been working all morning not as a teacher, but as a detective, but that she isn't just any regular detective, but a detective on the hunt for sounds. The teacher will explain that she has worked as a detective to investigate sound and what makes it happen, and she would like their help on the case. The teacher will read her "police report," and as she will go through the items she has found, allowing the students to listen to the sounds (for example, radio, computer, musical instrument, water from the aquarium, plucked rubber band). The teacher will then enlist the students help to find a few more sounds and see if they will rise to the challenge and also become detectives to investigate how it happens. The teacher will ask the students if they can think of anything all of these sounds had in common and allow the students to share their responses. The teacher will explain to the students that today they are beginning a study of the exciting world of sound as part of their physics unit. Then, the teacher will state today's objective, "Today you will learn

how sound is made. You will also learn how to determine the volume of a sound as well as what causes sounds to be different volumes."

**Explore:**

The teacher will then have the students lightly tap on a toy drum that has some rice on it. The students will observe and listen as the sound is produced and the rice moves up and down. The teacher will invite the the students to share why they think the rice moved. The teacher will provide the students with sounds with a variety of different volumes ranging from very soft to loud and invite the students to share examples of loud and soft sounds. Initial ideas from the students will be placed on a word wall.

**Explain:**

The teacher will ask the students to share why they think this occurs. The teacher will facilitate a discussion on sound:

- Sounds are actually all caused by something very simple - vibrations!
- The volume of a sound depends on the size of the vibration.

The teacher will ask the students if they think volume can be measured, and if so, how? The teacher will encourage the students to think of numbers assigned to volume on a television, radio, etc, asking how we know what numbers are "loud" and what are "quiet" or "soft." The teacher will introduce the concept of decibels and show illustrate the use of a calculator based laboratory as a scientific instrument that can be used to measure sound accurately.

**Station 1: Police Hotline!**

The students will investigate and see how vibrations move through different objects and materials by using a homemade "telephone." The students will describe how vibrations occurred in the scenario and how sound was subsequently produced.

**Station 2: Make some NOISE!**

The students will practice using the probes to measure the volume of sounds by working with their group members. Each student will have a turn to generate a class-appropriate sound while another student measures its volume and records it on a chart. Review concepts.

**Elaborate:**

If possible visit a local television or radio station or invite a local television or radio host to class. Discuss how a show is produced.

**Evaluate:**

The students will prepare a *Sound Detective Notebook*. Assess student work with a rubric, placing emphasis on students' understanding of sound production.

## *ACTIVITY—SOLAR SYSTEM*

Free resources for teachers, schools, and school systems are available at <http://csats.psu.edu/aisp.htm>.

The above activity is far too advanced mathematically for fourth grade, but can be easily modified.

Instead of doing the math to figure out the scale, use Earth's circumference as the unit of measurements. Then using any model of Earth, students can fairly easily measure out the rest of the Solar System. For example, the Moon is about 10 Earth circumferences away from Earth and it's circumference is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  that of Earth's. Students can figure out how to wrap a string 10 times around the Earth model to get the approximate distance to the Moon.

Here is a fun animation that gives the students an idea of spacing between planets and the planets' actual orbit shapes – <http://www.astro.wisc.edu/astro114Asteroid.html>.

The students are amazed at how far apart the gas planets are. They also really like it when I show what would happen to the planets if the Sun suddenly disappeared.

This opens up a good discussion about gravitational force.

Visit the following websites for other summer star gazing activities for children:

Astronomy.com

<http://www.astronomy.com/asy/default.aspx?c=ss&id=127>

NASA Kids' Club

<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/index.html>

Ask an Astronomer for Kids

[http://coolcosmos.ipac.caltech.edu/cosmic\\_kids/AskKids/index.shtml](http://coolcosmos.ipac.caltech.edu/cosmic_kids/AskKids/index.shtml)

European Space Agency—Educational Support

<http://sci.esa.int/science-e/www/object/index.cfm?fobjectid=35012>

Submitted by: Mary Beth Katz, CESI Director

## *ACTIVITY: SUMMER TIME!*

Summer means lots of flowers of many colors, but some colors are more frequent than others! First of all make sure the children know the colors of the rainbow, ROYGBIV.

In England we remember the sequence of colors in the rainbow with the mnemonic device: Richard Of York Gained Battles In Vain, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet. (This memory aide refers back to the Wars of the Roses, when Richard Duke of York became King Richard III but was defeated by Henry Tudor at the Battle of Bosworth (near where my mother, lives).

Take a Rainbow walk looking for flowers of a particular color. There are few green flowers, some of the Euphorbia are green. Some botanists count buds with their sepals over the petals or the young flower of a monocotyledon, like a lily, which are green. The petals of the flower gain color as the flower develops.

Children can keep a colors notebook and tally the number of flowers of different colors seen in a nature walk. Digital pictures may be taken of different colored flowers and the children can construct a digital scrapbook of the flowers.

Another activity children can do on a nature walk is to determine the different types of plants they can find. Monocot plants have only one food store in their seed whereas dicots (Dicotyledonous) plants have two seed leaves or cotyledons. If one looks inside a pea or a bean (even see in baked beans or frozen peas) the seed leaves can be found. The seed coat, or testa, can be found, as well. Between the two halves of the seed coat, baby plant or embryo with a tiny root and shoot is visible.

Observation of a kernel of sweet corn (maize) will allow one to see the food store. Beneath the seed store is the pale embryo. Press gently just above the embryo with a toothpick, and the tiny embryo will pop out- children usually find giving birth to a sweet corn exciting!

Look at the leaves of flowering plants. What is seen? Monocots have parallel lines on their leaves but dicots have branched lines, which is an easy way to recognize the two main types of plants even when there are no flowers. (Monocots do not have sepals whereas dicots have sepals and petals).

Submitted by: Sue Sale Tunnicliffe, CESI Director

## Activity: Hide and Seek

### Objective:

The purpose is to develop students' understanding of substances that dissolve in one solution and not in another solution.

### Content Connections:

Properties of objects and materials, soluble and insoluble

### Background Information:

Substances that are ionic compounds like table salt and salt substitute, will easily dissolve in water. Oil does not easily dissolve in water, but will dissolve more readily in an oily compound like a stain treatment stick or spray.

### Materials

Watercolor paper, watercolors, paint brushes, wax crayon, wax candles, pieces of cloth

### Engage:

Before class write a message on a white piece of watercolor paper with a white crayon. Hold up the paper and ask the children, "I have a message from my best friend. Can anyone read this message?" Allow the children to briefly tell you what the message says. Wash the watercolor paper with watercolors. The message appears. Ask the children to read the message now. "Why do you think the message appeared?" Record the children's initial ideas.

Ask the children questions like the following: Did you ever get in trouble for coloring on the wall with a crayon? How did you parents remove the crayon? Allow the children to briefly share their experiences.

### Explore:

Pass out white crayons. Allow the children to write secret messages on white watercolor paper. Then allow the children to paint over the message with watercolors so the message appears. Ask the children, "Do you think this is how I wrote the message to my best friend?" Record the children's initial ideas.

### Explain:

Share class data. Ask the children what evidence makes them think the watercolors allowed the message to be read.

Allow the children to feel the crayon. How does a crayon feel? Write down observations of the crayons. Pass out white, wax candles. Allow the children to feel the candle. Do crayons and candles feel the same or different? Allow the children to use the candles to write messages on another sheet of white watercolor paper. Wash the message with

watercolors. What happens?

Drop small pieces of wax in water. Does the wax dissolve? Drop small pieces of table salt in the water. Does the salt dissolve?

Use the children's ideas to lead into the discussion. Crayons are basically made of wax with a little color. Wax is a compound with a long carbon chain and has a greasy feel. Water and wax or oil do not mix because water has a slight charge (polar molecule). The salt molecule has positive and negative charges like water and so will dissolve in water. Allow students to feel soap. How does it feel? Soap and detergents have an oil-like part of the molecule and will dissolve grease and a positive charge on the other end of the molecule like water. Allow the children to feel a laundry stain remover. Stain removers typically have a more oily feel than soap or detergent and are better at removing grease or oil. Water will dissolve dirt because dirt is not greasy.

### Elaborate:

Rub various stains on scraps of cloth. Place the cloths in water. Which stains will dissolve in water and which stains require stain stick?

Sample stains can be made from: a paste of salt (like perspiration, which contains a lot of salt), toothpaste, baking soda, shortening, oil, chocolate and sunflower butter (instead of peanut butter in case there is a child with a peanut allergy). The salt, baking soda, and toothpaste should dissolve in the water. The shortening, oil, chocolate, and sunflower butter will not dissolve. Try treating the stain first with a stain stick and see if the stain is easier to remove.

### Evaluate:

Assess participation and check for understanding of oily substances will dissolve oily stains and salt stains and dirt are easily dissolved in water because these stains are not oily.

### Summer Time Fun:

Watch the movie *National Treasure*. Talk about different ways secret messages have been written. Parents and children can discuss how heating *The Declaration of Independence* or adding lemon juice to the document would cause damage to the manuscript. Discuss how writing on the wall with a crayon is very difficult to remove because it takes oil to dissolve crayon. Once the crayon is dissolved by the oil, an oily spot is left on the wall. So, most of the time, parents have to re-paint the wall, which takes time and money, so there is less time for fun and less money for new toys.

## *Hide and Seek*

*Write a secret message with a white crayon on white paper. Send the secret message to your BF. Your BF covers the entire paper with water color paints. Your message appears!*



*How it works: The wax in the crayon does not mix with the water in the watercolor paints. So the message appears because the paper around the crayon message absorbs the watercolors.*

## *Activity: Some Like it Hot*

**Objective:**

The purpose is to develop students' understanding of change in the rate of chemical reactions due to an increase in temperature

**Content Connections:**

Properties of objects and materials, chemical reactions, reaction rates

**Background Information:**

In general for every 10°C increase in temperature, the reaction rate doubles up until the point at which decomposition of the reactants occurs.

**Materials**

3 lightsticks  
3 plastic containers for water  
Warm tap water, room temperature water, and ice water  
Thermometer  
Paper towels

**Engage:**

Show the students the lightsticks. Activate one lightstick. Ask the students if they have ever heard placing a lightstick in a freezer will extend the life of the lightstick. Ask the students to predict which lightstick will be brighter, one in hot water, one in room temperature water, or one in ice water.

**Explore:**

Place three water containers (warm, room temperature, and ice water) at each station. Ask the students to keep the water in the containers as much as possible. The materials manager will come to the front when called by the teacher to obtain a thermometer and three lightsticks.

Each group of students will activate the lightsticks (at the same time as much as possible) and place one lightstick in each container of water. The recorder will write the results on the group's data sheet. The reporter will write the results on the board when requested by the teacher.

The leader will make sure the station is clean and the materials manager will return the thermometer and lightsticks to the teacher when requested. The leader will make sure the names of all group members is on the data sheet and the data sheet is turned in as specified by the teacher.

**Explain:**

Share class data. The students should find the lightstick in

the warm water was the brightest and the lightstick in the ice water is very dim.

**Concept taught:** In general, the rate of a chemical reaction increases as the temperature increases. More of the chemicals in the lightstick react at the higher temperature and the lightstick is brighter. However, the lightstick will not last as long because the chemicals are used up at a faster rate. Placing the lightstick in the freezer will prolong the life of the lightstick because the rate of the chemical reaction is slowed due to a lower temperature.

**Elaborate:**

Ask for volunteers to take home a lightstick. Some of the students should place the lightsticks in warm water (or outside in the summer), at room temperature, and in the freezer. Time how long the lightsticks last at each temperature. Prepare a class bar chart with the results.

**Evaluate:**

Assess participation and check for understanding that chemical reactions will generally speed up when heated.

**Summer Time Fun:**

Parents and children can enjoy this activity together for summer time science fun.

Discuss how fireflies produce light from the same chemical reaction as the materials found in light sticks.

Discuss how the use of pesticides and lights from homes and businesses have reduced the number of fireflies. (Note: Fireflies are actually a beetle, not a fly). The following website has more information:

<http://www.ecomii.com/blogs/building/2009/07/13/keeping-the-firefly-flicker/>

Fireflies are used by scientists to study how the changes in cells caused by diseases like muscular dystrophy. See the following for more information:

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/bugs/firefly.html>

Visit the following website for more information on fireflies and other animals with bioluminescence:

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/bugs/firefly.html>

## *Some Like it Hot*

*Summer time is a great time to watch for fireflies. A chemical reaction in part of the body of a firefly cause the lower part of the insect's body to glow. This glow is called bioluminescence. (Fireflies are actually beetles and not flies.)*

*The same type of materials that causes fireflies to glow is used in lightsticks. The materials are mixed in the lightsticks when you bend the lightstick. The mixing of the materials makes new substances. Scientist saw a "chemical reaction" has happened.*

*What happens when a lightstick is placed in warm water?*

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*What happens when a lightstick is placed in room temperature water?*

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*What happened when a lightstick is placed in warm water?*

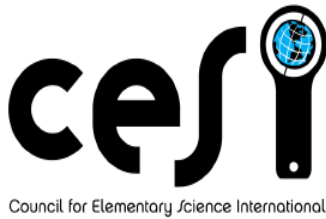
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*If you wanted your lightstick to be very bright, what would you do?*

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## Call For Presenters for **CESI SHARE-A-THON** at the NSTA AREA and NATIONAL **CONFERENCES**

Council for Elementary Science International (CESI) will again sponsor the very popular **Share-A-Thon Extravaganza for PreK-8** 2009 NSTA Area Conventions. Please circle the session or sessions for your presentation.

**Minneapolis, MN: Area Conference, October 29-31**

**Phoenix, AZ: Area Conference, December 3-5**

**Philadelphia, PA: National Conference, March 18-21**

If you are interested in being a presenter, please return the form below by August 14, 2009 to **Betty Crocker**, [crocker@unt.edu](mailto:crocker@unt.edu).

You will be notified of acceptance by email no later than August 28, 2009. If you have not heard from Betty Crocker by then, please contact **Betty Crocker** at [crocker@unt.edu](mailto:crocker@unt.edu) for an update.

Name	School/Institution
Home Address	School Street Address
City	School Phone #
State/Province	City
Zip	State/Province
	Zip
Email Address	
<p><i>Attach a copy of the handout you plan to use at the session. This will allow us to share these electronically. Please reference non-original ideas.</i></p> <p><b>Activity Title:</b></p> <p><b>Objective:</b></p> <p><b>Conference Strand:</b></p> <p><b>Content Connections:</b></p> <p><b>Background Information:</b></p>	<p><b>Prior Preparation Instructions (if appropriate):</b></p> <p><b>Engage:</b></p> <p><b>Explore:</b></p> <p><b>Explain:</b></p> <p><b>Elaborate:</b></p> <p><b>Evaluate:</b></p>

**PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING**



Science Teaching is the highest recognition for excellence in science and mathematics teaching for kindergarten through 12th grade teachers. Elementary teachers (K-6) may apply for the award in 2010 (deadline May 1, 2010). See the following website for more information:

<http://www.paemst.org>

Dr. Kathy Chandler, Society of Elementary Presidential Awardees President, CESI President Kay Atchison Warfield, and Charlene Dindo, Past National Winner

Prior President awardees may join the Society of Elementary Presidential Awardees. Visit the following website for more information:

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and

<http://www.sepamembers.org>

**CESI PAST PRESIDENTS' ROUND TABLE**

All CESI Past Presidents are cordially invited to

CESI Past Presidents' Round Table

Date: To Be Announced

Location: To Be Announced

RSVP: [kaw@alsde.edu](mailto:kaw@alsde.edu)

**AND THE WINNER IS....CESI MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

Your state, national, island, or international science education organization can have its ten minutes of fame. The November 2009 CESI newsletter will feature a spotlight of the organization with the greatest percentage increase in membership.

Ideas to increase membership include:

- Host a *Share-A-Thon* for CESI at local, state, national, or international science education meetings or at other professional organizational meetings.
- Host a booth at professional meetings.
- Have a membership drive competition for local, state, national, or international science educational meetings.
- Host a *Science Night* at a local museum, school, observatory, planetarium, aquarium, zoo, or park.

- If there is a parade in town, sponsor a float or have members march in the parade.
- Challenge other CESI members to a special one-on-one competition to build membership.
- Show your colors—wear science t-shirts embroidered with CESI logo. Show your support for exemplary elementary science.
- Your desk will be the best dressed desk with a CESI cup. Use the cup as a conversation starter to recruit membership in CESI.

Contact President Kay Atchison Warfield for more information:

[kaw@alsde.edu](mailto:kaw@alsde.edu)



**BOARD MINUTES**

The Spring 2009 CESI Board Meeting was held March 19 at the Newberry Room, Hilton Riverside, in New Orleans. CESI continues to work with *Zula Patrol*. Our membership is up. The Board voted to continue CESI’s membership in the NSTA Association of Affiliates and also its membership in ICASE. The CESI Board Meeting for Fall of 2009 is tentatively scheduled in conjunction with the NSTA Ft. Lauderdale area conference, November 12-14. President Kay Atchison Warfield challenged each board member to recruit 200 new CESI memberships, nominate someone for a Board position and make a nomination or one of CESI’s

awards. President Kay Atchison Warfield also appointed a committee to update the CESI Constitution and By-Laws.  
Submitted by Mary Lara, CESI Secretary

**BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT**

The CESI finances are in good order. As of 6/1/09, CESI has \$12,470.24 in the operating account. This includes a much-appreciated Patron level gift to the Centennial Fund from Bonnie Barr (Larkin) from Grove City, PA. This gift will be added to the Centennial Fund Certificate of Deposit when it is renewed.

addresses provided to the membership director, Dr. Joe Sumrall.

Membership may be renewed online at:

[www.cesiscience.org](http://www.cesiscience.org).

A gentle reminder to the membership that the policy of the Board remains to be one of complete transparency. If a member has questions about our accounting, please do not hesitate to contact me at [dayj@easternct.edu](mailto:dayj@easternct.edu).

For the first time, we have the ability to accept payment via Visa, Mastercard and Discover through our encrypted website. As always, if one prefers to send a check, please mail directly to:

Please note that the journal and newsletters are being moved to the membership area of the website due to rapidly escalating expenses related to print publications. Once the migration is completed, back issues for approximately 10 years will be available for members to download. All new publications will be online with notifications being sent to email

Dr. Jeanelle Day, CESI Treasurer  
83 Windham Street  
151 Webb Hall  
Willimantic, CT 06226

**BOARD NEWSLETTER REPORT**

For the February 2009 newsletter, 451 newsletters were E-mailed and 61 mailed to membership.

neutral party at a research university and forwarded to the CESI President and President-elect.  
President/president-elect forwarded congratulations to appropriate parties.

CESI Board elections were completed online using “Survey Methods,” [http:// www.surveymethods.com](http://www.surveymethods.com).

If you are not receiving your E-mail, please contact me at:

Online elections were prepared with the following protocols:  
Ballot prepared so each candidate’s biography and position statement could be read by clicking on the appropriate box on the ballot.  
Invitation to vote sent via email or printed (for members without email addresses).  
Ballot set up so that only one vote per computer/email address.  
Once voting was closed, ballots opened in presence of a

[sundbergc@bellsouth.net](mailto:sundbergc@bellsouth.net)

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