

2005 Winners of the North Alabama Regional Science Fair in Optics

The awards were generously provided by NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, the University of Alabama in Huntsville and SPIE. Robert Hoover, Ted Mooney and Tommy Cantey were the judges responsible for evaluating the merit and application of optics in the science fair entries. The following awards were presented to nine recipients for the most outstanding projects in optics or optics related project. All winners received SPIE certificates and free junior memberships to SPIE.

Senior Division Awards

First Prize (\$100, SPIE T-shirt, fleece vest)

– **Joshua Kalin**

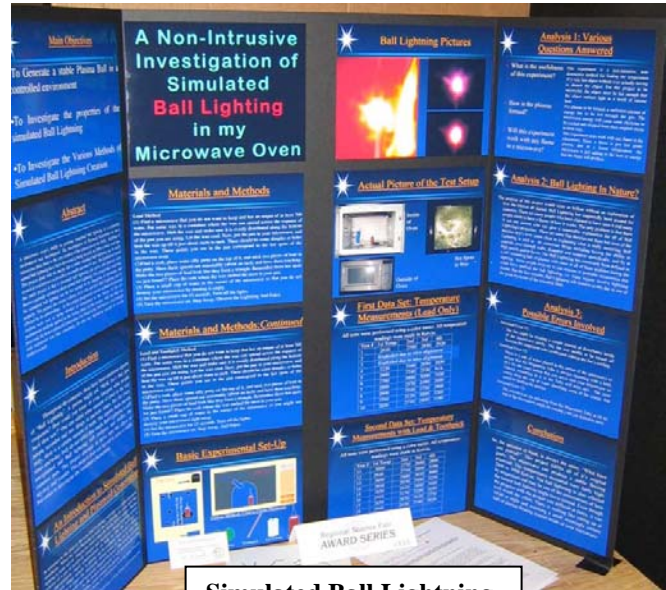
“A non-intrusive investigation of a simulated ball lightning phenomena”,
12th Grade Catholic High School,
Sponsor Brian Finzel, Huntsville.

Second Prize (\$75) - Maggie Meehan

“Faster than a speeding proton...
The enzyme, supercatalyst”,
10th Grade Catholic High School,
Sponsor Brian Finzel, Huntsville.

Third Prize (\$50) – Julia Kovalcik

“The effect of heat and light on luminescence”,
10th Grade Catholic High School, Sponsor Brian Finzel, Huntsville.



Junior Division Awards

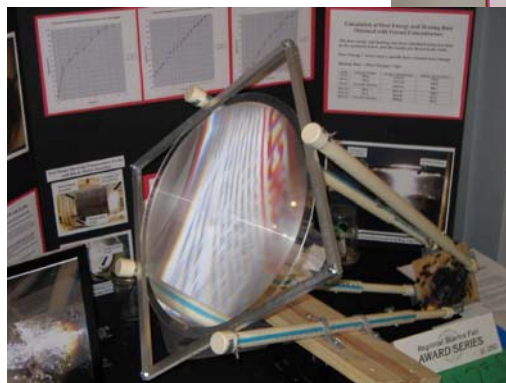
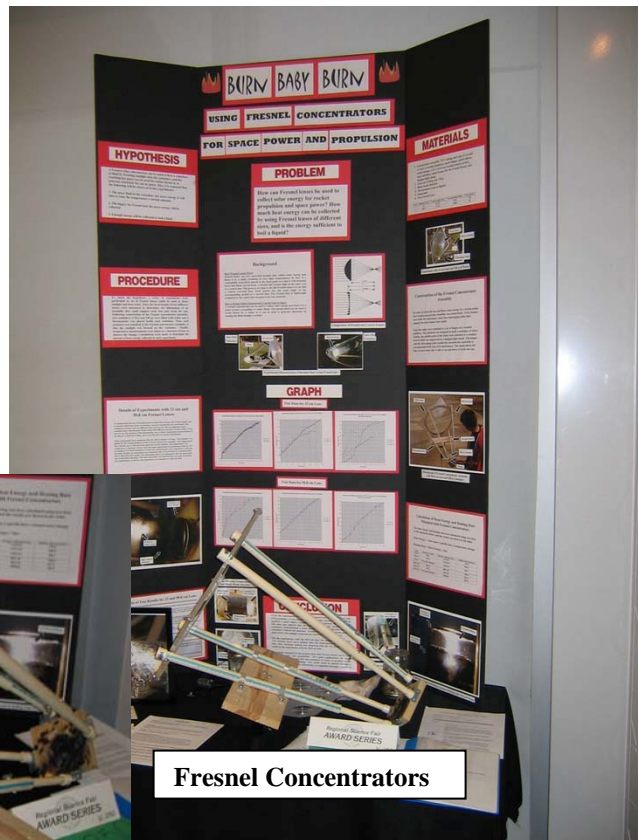
First Prize (\$100, SPIE T-shirt, fleece vest)

– **Nathan Tinker**

“Burn Baby Brun: Using Fresnel concentrators for space power and propulsion”,
8th Grade Covenant Christian Academy,
Sponsor Rhonda Lisauckis, Huntsville.

Second Prize (\$50) - Dave Praharaj

“Probing for the aging gene”,
7th Grade Randolph School,
Sponsor Jimmie Lou Martin, Huntsville.



Middle Division Awards

First Prize (\$75, SPIE T-shirt, fleece vest) – Joseph Newchurch

“The effects of tropospheric ozone pollution on agriculture”,
6th Grade St. John’s Catholic School, Sponsor Doreen Forsythe, Madison.

Second Prize (\$50) – Michael Hayes

“How color effects temperature”,
6th Grade East Lawrence Middle School, Sponsor Patti Terry, Trinity.

Elementary Division Awards

First Prize (SPIE T-shirt and grab bag) – Sarah Goad

“Does the color of light affect phototropism in plants?”,
5th Grade Covenant Christian Academy, Sponsor Rhonda Lisauckis, Huntsville.

Second Prize (SPIE T-shirt and grab bag) – Jean Speer

“Plant growth in colored light”,
5th Grade Weatherly Heights Elementary, Sponsor Rebecca McAlister, Huntsville.