

VERNIER TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

SPONSORED BY VERNIER SOFTWARE AND TECHNOLOGY

PROGRAM SUMMARY

A partnership of Vernier Software & Technology and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), this award recognizes the innovative use, or potential use, of data-collection technology (e.g. probes or sensors) interfacing with a computer, graphing calculator, or handheld in the science classroom. Seven awards will be presented in the following categories: one elementary (grades K–5) award; two middle level (grades 6–8) awards; three high school (grades 9–12) awards; and one college award.

AWARD

The award consists of a \$1,000 prize; \$1,000 in Vernier products; and up to \$1,000 towards expenses to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education. Awardees will be honored at the Awards Banquet during the NSTA conference.

ELIGIBILITY

Teachers of science in grades K–college classrooms, that reside in an NSTA district. Applicants may not have won previously at their school.

AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications should reflect National Science Education Standards and must include the following information in the order presented:

- ★ a completed and signed application form;
- ★ an abstract of application, not to exceed 250 words;
- ★ Describe the program's philosophy, goals, and objectives. How has the applicant implemented, or will implement, data collection technology in his or her science teaching practices? What impact do you believe these activities have had, or will have, on student learning? Describe the evolution of these practices in the nominee's classroom, school, and community. Innovations may have been implemented at the time of application for this award or will be if awarded. The program description should be no more than five (5) pages, single-sided, and double-spaced.
- ★ an actual lab activity with the grade level. Describe an innovative practice you have implemented, or will implement, in your classroom, and tell what impact it will have or has had on students, other teachers, parents, and community groups;
- ★ a one-page, single-sided, single-spaced vita that includes teaching experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards, and published material;
- ★ Three letters of support from individuals and groups who are familiar with the applicant's work. You may also self nominate. Letters should not exceed two pages each and must accompany packet. Letters sent separately will not be considered. When possible, use letterhead. Make sure letters are signed and dated accordingly. Letters should be written for and refer to applicant's strengths, accomplishments, and the highlights of his or her teaching or administration methods and experiences that directly connect to the application;
- ★ a completed and signed checklist; and
- ★ label each section and number each page.

Upon receipt, applications become the property of NSTA. Applications will not be returned to applicants. Late or faxed applications will not be accepted. All material must be in one envelope. Completed applications must be received by November 30.

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Award Level elementary (preK-5) Middle Level (6-8) High School (9-12) College

Name _____ Title _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____ E-mail _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____ E-mail _____

How many years have you been a classroom teacher teaching science? _____ Current Grade Level? _____

When did you begin using data collection tools in your classroom? _____

Have you ever received an NSTA award? _____ If so, list year _____ School Population _____

School Type Public Private DoD Urban Rural Suburban

Signature _____ Date _____

Principal's Name _____ Phone Number _____

I certify that the applicant is a full-time classroom teacher at the above referenced school, and the program described herein has existed for one year or more and is ongoing. I fully support the submission of this application.

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

Send your original application and supporting materials to:

Vernier Technology Awards
NSTA
1840 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201-3000

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Questions? Please visit our website at www.nsta.org or e-mail awards@nsta.org.



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CHECKLIST

Occasionally we receive entries that are incomplete or in which the applicant did not follow the specified guidelines. Entries that do not follow the stated rules for submission are disqualified, regardless of the merit or innovation of the entry. Make sure you and a colleague review the checklist below before sending in your application so you can ensure that your efforts will not be disqualified. Ensure that your application communicates the information you intend. Don't forget to check for correct spelling. All written components should be typed and double spaced, on standard 8-1/2" x 11" white paper, with 1" margins. The font is a standard 12-point size or larger. Make sure your application is bound together with a heavy-duty staple or binder clip (no presentation binders). If you have questions regarding your application, please e-mail awards@nsta.org.

Complete the list, sign it, and attach it to your application. Each entry includes

- a completed application form signed by you and your principal;
- abstract of application;
- program description;
- lab activity;
- one-page vita;
- three (3) letters of support; and
- label each section and number each page.

Please be advised that you may apply for more than one award; however, you are eligible to win only one NSTA award per year. Each application must be based on a unique program and process. Submission of the same idea and materials to different NSTA award programs will result in the disqualification of all applications. If your idea or project has received an NSTA award in the past, that idea or project is not eligible to receive an additional award.

If you are selected to receive an award, NSTA must request and receive your social security number to issue a 1099 form to you. If your program is currently grant funded, confirm that you, as an individual, are eligible to receive a cash award. Your application will not be returned and becomes the property of NSTA. If you have received an award for this project from another provider, you must notify NSTA.

If your application is selected to receive an award, NSTA reserves the right to reproduce information/photos/ other content in promotional materials and on the NSTA website. By submitting materials that contain images of students and other individuals, you assume complete responsibility for obtaining appropriate release consent forms and permission to transfer these materials to NSTA.

Signed _____ Date _____

NSTA AWARDS – 2011/12

Vernier Technology Award

Official Scoring Guide

Name: _____
 City/State: _____
 Grade Level: ___ K-5 ___ 6-8 ___ 9-12 ___ College

Criteria							Score
Application form is complete.							YES or NO
Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Superior	Weight	Score
Abstract –overview of program and teaching efforts in 250 words or less.	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Program Description – No more than 5 single-sided, double-spaced pages; including description of:							
a. Program’s philosophy, goals and objectives	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
b. How has or will the applicant implemented data collection technology in his or her science teaching practices	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
c. The impact these activities have/will have on student learning	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
d. The evolution of these practices in the nominee’s classroom, school, and community	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Copy of Actual Lab Activity – Including a description of							
a. an innovative practice you have implemented or plan to implement in your classroom	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
b. the impact it will have or has had on students, other teachers, parents and community groups	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Vita – Includes teaching experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards and published materials. (One page, single-sided, single-spaced only.)	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Letters of Support –3 letters of support addressing qualities of impact. Letters may come from colleagues, students, parents, administrators or community representatives. (Each letter must be no more than two pages, single-sided, single-spaced.)	1	2	3	4	5	X3	

Total	
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Comments: _____

Judge: _____ **Date:** _____