

Regional Science & Inventors Fairs

# EDISON FAIRS

K-12 —

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

2025-2026





Inspired by Southwest Florida's most famous resident, Thomas Edison, the combined events of the Edison Fairs—the Regional Science Fair and Regional Inventors Fair—have directly engaged over 30,000 students from Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Glades, and Hendry counties in scientific research and the invention process for 68 years, awarding over \$150,000 in scholarships and awards, as well as supported student and family travel to compete at the State, National, and International levels, where our students have won top awards including full college scholarships.

Since 1958, the **Thomas Edison** *Kiwanis* **Regional Science & Engineering Fair** middle and high school student participants have explored scientific research by designing and running their own experiments. Students apply the scientific method, follow safe research protocols, collect and analyze data, and present their findings—first at their school-based fair, before advancing to the Regional Fair, where the most outstanding projects earn college scholarships and special recognitions.

For nearly 40 years, the **Thomas** *Edison Festival of Lights* **Regional** *Inventors Fair* has been hosted concurrently with the Science Fair, for K-12 student innovators who identify a problem they want to solve and devise a unique or improved solution. With an entrepreneurial spirit, they create prototypes and pitch their designs and marketing plans to win scholarships and awards on their path to patents and world-changing impact.



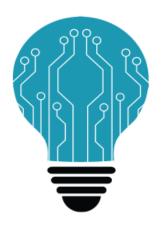
Empowering youth through STEM, invention, and entrepreneurship, by providing experiential education, supportive resources, recognition, and scholarship opportunities to K-12 students from diverse backgrounds throughout Southwest Florida, encouraging youth from all walks of life to explore their passions, pursue their dreams, and recognize their worth.

#### **VISION**

A thriving regional culture of creativity, critical thinking, and innovation that empowers students to solve tomorrow's challenges.

#### **HISTORY**

Since 1958, Southwest Florida middle and high school students have participated in the Science & Engineering Fair, with the Inventors Fair events serving K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students added in 1988. After pandemic impacts and decimated school district budgets, the Edison Fairs, Inc. 501c3 was established in 2023 to better facilitate full support for both Regional Fairs and related events, programs, and offerings, including student and family travel to State, National, and International level competitions. This ensures that no participant is held back from reaching their full potential and accessing the full breadth of awards and scholarships offered at affiliate and advancement events.



#### REACH

Edison Fairs events currently serve public, private, charter school, and homeschool students in grades K-12 across the Southwest Florida region, including Lee, Collier, and Charlotte, counties, reaching over 30,000 participants to date.



Morgan Barkhurst's
Graphene Solar-Photon
Sail advanced to win Best
of Fair 4<sup>th</sup> Place and Ying
Scholar at the State Science
& Engineering Fair, plus the
NASA Award at the
International Science &
Engineering Fair.

### SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR

Est. 1958 Grades 6-12

Originating in 1958, the **Thomas Edison** *Kiwanis* **Regional Science** & Engineering Fair engages middle and high school students in scientific research. Participants design their own experiments to test a hypothesis. Following the scientific method, they consult with teachers and advisors to implement safe research protocols, then collect and analyze data to draw their own conclusion and present their findings. School-based fairs advance their top projects to compete under thirteen categories at the Regional Fair for awards, scholarships, and advancement opportunities.

As an affiliate of both the State Science & Engineering Fair of Florida and the Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair, Edison Fairs commits to funding travel, lodging, and food for all students advancing to compete in the multi-day events. The top middle school students are also entered into the Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge and many are invited to participate in the fully-funded Summer Research Opportunity 2-week camp led by FGCU faculty to further cultivate their scientific-research skills.

Thomas Edison *Kiwanis* Regional Science & Engineering Fair students have consistently performed well, amassing additional awards and scholarships at both the State and International levels.



For almost four decades the **Thomas Edison** *Festival of Light* **Regional Inventors Fair** has been hosted alongside the Regional Science & Engineering Fair. Student innovators in grades K-12, identify a problem they want to solve and design a unique solution, then create and test prototypes and pitch their marketing plans to win scholarships and awards. Significant improvements on existing inventions are also appropriate project entries. Combining the engineering design process with the principles of entrepreneurship, the Inventors Fair offers students the chance to look at a problem as an opportunity, applying basic business practices to maximize the return on the initial investment of their time and resources.

As an Invention Convention Worldwide affiliate, Regional winners can advance to the State Invention Convention hosted by the University of South Florida at the Inventors Hall of Fame in Tampa, with potential progression to the Raytheon (RTX) Invention Convention Nationals at The Henry Ford in Dearborn, Michigan, and the National Academy of Inventors Genspiration Prize competition in Atlanta, Georgia.



Thomas Edison Festival of Light Regional Inventors Fair students have consistently performed well and won additional awards and patents at the State, National, and even the Worldwide level, earning the region special recognition from The Henry Ford Invention Convention team.



"This research is important because many diseases and illnesses like Parkinson's, diabetes and Alzheimer's can cause people to lose their sense of smell, so scientists are trying to determine what makes the sense of smell different in some people."

- Bella Dacanay, Jr. Div. Best of Fair

#### **IMPACT**

The Edison Fairs are run by an all-volunteer board, planning and managing all related events, programs, and offerings. With low overhead, donations support event expenses, awards, and advancement including travel to State, National, and International level competitions. Your investment helps to nurture young scientists, engineers, and entrepreneurs in our region, fostering a spirit of innovation to enable them to take on challenges and clearly communicate their ideas. The experience, skills, and confidence developed prepare them to make their next discovery, scientific breakthrough prototype, or business pitch! These impacts actually ripple out to all school-level participants, as school events are hosted specifically to feed the top competitors into the Regional Fairs, which extends the reach to upwards of 100,000 students across the region over the exers!

#### Kiwanis

has generously supported Science Fair with funds and volunteers for all of our 68 years—our original and #1 longest running partnership!

#### **PARTNERS**

Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida Southwestern State College
EarthShine Institute
Imagine Solutions Conference
Edison Awards
Edison Festival of Lights
Suncoast Credit Union
Scientists Society of SWFL
SONY Electronics, Inc.

#### www.EdisonFairs.org

#### **FGCU**

has graciously hosted the events plus provides nearly 100 faculty and student judges and volunteers each year.

### SPONSOR LEVELS & BENEFITS

Sponsorship Benefits	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000
Option for Edison Fairs Naming Rights							
Presenting Sponsorship for an Event		Tailored  partnerships are  available to ensure					
Logo on Main Event Signage	•		maximum impact in alignment with your				
Presence/Table at Fairs			capacity	and goals			
Sponsorship of Parent Lounge	•	•				Add a Speci Award of yo oosing for ei	ur
Presence/Table at Awards Ceremony	•	•	•		S	Science Fair ventors Fai	or
Sponsorship of Hospitality Area for Judges/Volunteers	•	•	•			Both!	
Logo Featured on Photo-Opp Prop	•	•		•			
Logo with Link on Website Homepage Carousel	•	•	•	•	•		
Featured Social Media Post (Facebook/Instagra m/LinkedIn)		•		•			
Social Media Mention	•	•	•	•	•		
Recognition in Event Program Handouts						•	
Inclusion in Media Release	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Logo on Website Sponsorship Page	•	•	•	•	•	•	•



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