

# National American Indian Science & Engineering Fair (NAISEF)

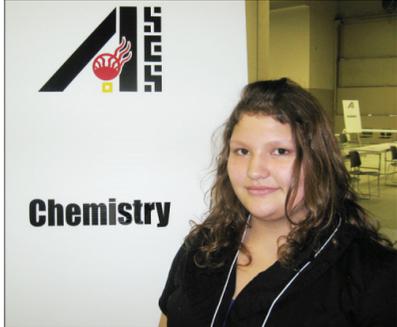
March 23 - 26, 2011 Convention Center, Albuquerque, NM Submitted by: Cheryl L McClellan, Second Chief

**Purpose:** To judge the NAISEF; transport & chaperone three Sac and Fox Nation finalists to compete in NAISEF Sessions, Names of Presenters:

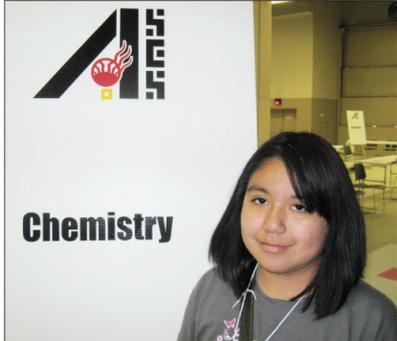
\* Sac and Fox Nation Science and Engineering Fair Finalists included:  
1. Tomi Calderon, Finalist in the 8th



grade Plant Sciences category; Project: "Enerzizer Potato"  
2. Sydney Myers, Finalist in the 7th grade



Chemistry category; Project: "Candy Land"  
3. Winonah Hamblin, Finalist in the 6th



grade Chemistry category; Project: "Lava Lamp"

**Dinner, Attendees, and Contacts:**

- SFN Finalists competed in Albuquerque in the NAISEF, which included 272 students in 5th – 12th grades from 13 states and Canada
- Category awards: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners were identified in each Category; students competed against students in their own grade level
- Tomi Calderon, Won 3rd place Category Winner in the 8th grade Plant Sciences
- Sydney Myers, Won 2nd place Category Winner in the 7th grade Chemistry
- Special Awards: In addition to Category awards, 59 Special Awards from various organizations, corporations, or individuals were awarded, which were separate from Category winners
- American Honda Foundation gave an additional \$135 cash to each 1st place winner in each category
- Expo: The day before NAISEF judging, 25 companies and organizations set up booths for the students to provide an opportunity to see science and engineering in everyday life via various applications of 'everyday science'. SFN Finalists were able to "fly" a Lockheed Martin simulator for an F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and generate static electricity, among other activities.

**Highlights – Perspective From SFN Finalists:**

1. What did you enjoy most about the trip?  
\* Tomi Calderon: The dance was awesome. I won a bag [as a door prize]. I met new friends that I get to meet on Facebook.  
\* Sydney Myers: Driving to Albuquerque and having fun along the way.  
\* Winonah Hamblin: The hotel was pretty good and they gave free cookies! I met new people from all over other states.

2. What did you learn on this trip?  
\* Tomi Calderon: I learned how to manage money!  
\* Sydney Myers: I learned how to make rock candy.  
\* Winonah Hamblin: I learned how to manage money like you do in the 'real world' and I didn't realize how hard it was! And the judges gave me some good advice [on future science projects].

3. For other students who will enter a Science Fair, what recommendations would you give them?  
\* Tomi Calderon: Bring more money, bring more food.  
\* Sydney Myers: Have a lot of research [in your journal].  
\* Winonah Hamblin: Bring all your paperwork! And don't be shy to meet other people. Bring more spending money and

don't be nervous. If I was to tell someone what to bring to the next trip, it would be a smile, because you don't need to worry about nothing. It's a fun place to be.

4. What did you like about the Science Fair?  
\* Tomi Calderon: I liked meeting new people and eating some good food.  
\* Sydney Myers: Being judged was the funnest part.  
\* Winonah Hamblin: It was nice. My favorite thing at the science fair was talking to people and explaining my project. I liked the Expo! Thank you for the \$201 you gave us to eat on. [per diem]  
5. What did you not like about the Science Fair?  
\* Tomi Calderon: What I didn't like was that it was a LONG ways away from home, and I didn't like the Expo.  
\* Sydney Myers: Nothing, everything was really fun.  
\* Winonah Hamblin: I didn't like how I didn't win. I didn't like waking up real early. All in all, I liked everything.

Recommendations for future trips from the chaperones/drivers of the trip: (Curtis Wakolee, Jeanelle Lowe, Cheryl McClellan)  
1. All students should stay together as one group of students. Parents, family

members, and friends of science fair provide good support, but distract finalists from the purpose and unity of the "group".

2. Having allowed for travel time to arrive in plenty of time for registration and project set up really made the trip enjoyable for everyone. For a science fair, allow 1-3 hours for the Finalists to pass the Violations Review Committee.

3. Stay in host hotel, which is walking distance to Science Fair. Finalists were able to meet students from other states and interact outside the formal science fair agenda.

4. No cell phones or electronics are allowed in the science fair judging. Strongly encourage (enforce) students to bring homework, a book to read, or participate in Math Competition during judging. The student must sit in their chair by their project for 3+ hours and need something to occupy their time or patience wears very thin... for everyone.

5. This was the first time the Sac and Fox Nation participated in the National Science and Engineering Fair. The SFN Finalists recommend taking more students and chartering a coach bus for the trip.



Family came to wish us well and see us off as we leave Shawnee (Ralph Hamblin, Jeanelle Lowe, Winonah Hamblin, Joyce Hamblin, Tomi Calderon, Dagwood Wakolee, Sydney Myers, Lyndee McClellan)



Having fun: in Amarillo and Albuquerque



Sac and Fox Delegation to Albuquerque National American Indian Science and Engineering Fair, March 2011



Family came to see us off as we leave Albuquerque (Wakia Bread, Lyndee McClellan, Dagwood Wakolee, Tomi Calderon, Wil Honeyestewa, Winonah Hamblin, Jeanelle Lowe, Carla Honeyestewa)

