

State of the Academy

2014



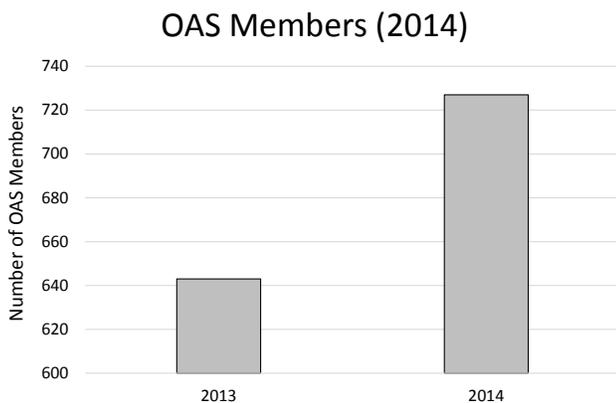
As we close 2014, The Ohio Academy of Science would like to thank all of its Members and Non-members (or hopefully *soon to be* members) for their support this year. Below is a brief synopsis of OAS programing from 2014, and a look ahead to what 2015 holds.

Snapshot of OAS 2014

In 2014, The Ohio Academy of Science saw in increase in membership numbers (727 vs. 643 in 2013 +13%), as well as participation in Academy programing.

Annual Meeting – The 2014 Annual Meeting was held at Walsh University, with 158 student and professional presentations. The meeting was attended by close to 300 people from all disciplines of science in Ohio.

State Science Day – 1,261 students from across Ohio came to The Ohio State University to compete in the 2014 State Science Day. Complete details can be seen below:



State Science Day 2014

			%
Number of Students		1261	
	Male	525	42
	Female	736	58
Number of Schools represented		309	
Number of Counties represented		68	
Number of title sponsors		6	
Number of General Sponsors		4	
Total number of sponsors		29	
Number of Spd Awd		73	
	value	\$ 4,580,841	
Number of Judges			
	Spd Awd	approx 750	
	Academy	approx 400	
Number of Volunteers		66	

Senior Academy

Of all sections within OAS, we are excited to see our Senior Academy (college students, professionals, and retired members) show over 50% growth in 2014. We hope to continue this momentum through the implementation of **Institutional Memberships**. This membership allows schools or businesses to join the Academy for one price, and then all students and employees at that Institution can join the Academy for **free**. If you think your school or business would be interested in this type of membership, please contact us or go to: <http://oas.memberclicks.net/institutional-membership> for more details.

Our Senior Academy members participate in or conduct cutting edge research in Ohio (and beyond), represent Ohio at the OAS Annual Meeting as well as national and inter-national meetings, and are critical to mentoring the next generation of scientists in Ohio.

New Programing in the Academy

We are excited to officially welcome *Invention Convention* to the Academy! While OAS has long worked alongside *Invention Convention* to provide pre-college programing to students, as of December 8th, 2014, *Invention Convention* will now be a program of The Ohio Academy of Science! This program is a great addition to OAS, and we look forward to continuing their great work with K-8 students.

Also in 2014, OAS launched a new program, *Believe in Ohio*. This program is a collaboration with Entrepreneurship Engagement Ohio and supported by the Ohio Board of Regents. The goal of *Believe in Ohio* is to introduce STEM-students to commercialization and business plan development to ready the next-generation of entrepreneurs in Ohio. To date, 7 STEM-forums were held across the state that attracted over 1,200 participants. In the spring, students will compete at their local schools for the opportunity to attend the state *Believe in Ohio* competition and the 2 million dollars available in scholarships and awards.

Looking ahead - OAS in 2015

With these new additions, OAS now has a “STEM-Pipeline” of programing that stretches from Kindergarten through high school. Students will be able to easily transition from one program to the next, allowing them to participate in hands-on scientific programing from

the time they enter school (*Invention Convention*, K-8) till they graduate (*State Science Day*, 5-12 and *Believe in Ohio*, 9-12). Students who conduct a research project can often compete in more than one program to increase their opportunity to win scholarships or awards.



We are fortunate to live in a state that supports science and science education to the extent that Ohio and its citizens do. Those of us at The Ohio Academy of Science will continue to strive to achieve our mission, “to foster curiosity, discovery, innovation, and problem-solving skills in Ohio”, and we hope you will join us on this mission.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. McConoughey, PhD
CEO - The Ohio Academy of Science