

Science has announced a cohesive, specific plan that provides a rigorous and safe way for this to happen.

New for 2021, students will not have to qualify for a Virtual District Science Day by participating in a local or independent science fair. Rather, any student who completes a project will be able to register directly into the Virtual District Science Day for the opportunity to advance to State Science Day, Virtual 2.0. Specifically, this will reduce the pressure and need to host a local fair in these very uncertain times.

For more information, including timelines and other details, please visit [the 2021 District and State Science Day](#) page.

Believe in Ohio

[Believe in Ohio](#) is a free, comprehensive, curriculum-based, STEM and entrepreneurship program for Ohio high school students. The program is designed to create a “Culture of Innovation” and to prepare students to meet the demands of a rapidly changing labor market. STEM and entrepreneurship are a powerful combination, and the Believe in Ohio program teaches students how to commercialize solutions to problems by developing a STEM Commercialization or STEM Business Plan. It also provides the opportunity to compete for more than \$400,000 in awards and scholarship!

STEM Advocates

To assist teachers with the program, six STEM Advocates throughout the state will support teachers during the school year. The Advocates, areas and their email addresses are listed below:



Northwest (blue)	Ms. Jenna Pollock jplock@ohiosci.org
Northeast/West (purple)	Ms. Laurie Godfrey lgodfrey@ohiosci.org
Northeast/East (yellow)	Ms. Sheila Cubick scubick@ohiosci.org
Central (green)	Ms. Laura Brennan lbreanan@ohiosci.org
Southwest (orange)	Ms. Angela McMurry amcmurry@ohiosci.org
Southeast (red)	Dr. Pamela Wilson pwilson@ohiosci.org

The Impact of Believe in Ohio



10,000 Students participated in the Believe in Ohio program

1.2 MILLION Awards in research, technology, and more

BELIEVE IN OHIO CREATED A "CULTURE OF INNOVATION" IN OHIO'S HIGH SCHOOLS

8,000 Students and teachers entered STEM fairs

50+ OH schools connected with schools that participated

www.believeinohio.org

Program resources are turn-key and can be implemented in any learning environment. This includes [free professional development](#) for teachers to earn 7 Contact Hours or 1 Credit Hour through Ashland University.

Students who aspire to become an innovator, but are not being supported by a participating school or teacher, can learn more by visiting the [independent study](#) tab on the Believe in Ohio website.

If you are a high school administrator, teacher, or advisor and would like to learn more by speaking directly with a Believe in Ohio STEM Advocate, please click below.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Please Support The Ohio Academy of Science

The Ohio Academy of Science (OAS) is a membership-based, volunteer-driven, not-for-profit, 501 (c) 3 organization and its mission is to foster curiosity, discovery, and innovation by uniting all who valued education, science, engineering, technology, or their applications to benefit society.

Primarily the OAS does this by advocating for science, research, and education through its programs that include the Annual Meeting and through publication of *The Ohio Journal of Science*, a multi-disciplinary, scientific journal now in its 120th year of publication.

Critical pre-college programs such as District/State Science Day, the Buckeye Science & Engineering Fair, and Believe in Ohio teach students how to apply what their being taught and provides a deep appreciation for why science and mathematics are so important for their post-secondary education and career development.

Financial support comes through membership and giving.

Membership and Donations

Members are to a membership-based organization as stockholders are to a publicly traded corporation. OAS members are charged with the responsibility of nominating and electing a board of trustees or serving on committees that affect policy and procedural matters. OAS members, and their elected trustees, are the governing body of the OAS.

If you are interested in supporting the OAS by joining as a member, please see our [members page](#) for more information, or send questions to info@ohiosci.org

OAS programs and the ability for the OAS to effectively advocate for science and education can be directly supported by making a charitable contribution.

This year has been especially trying. The OAS has shifted platforms, redirected resources, and worked diligently to provide quality programs. In 2020, District and State Science Day were among the largest on-line science fairs in the nation, and because of this, more than \$500,000 in scholarships and awards were made possible. These changes were also reflected in the [2020 Celebration of Science](#).

PLEASE DONATE HERE

Thank you for taking the time to read the fall newsletter. Please be safe and stay healthy during this difficult time and look for more announcements in the near future.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Woytek, Executive Director

The Ohio Academy of Science



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