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## Ricardo Richards Elementary Showcases Young Innovators at 2026 Science Fair

Students in grades three through six presented engineering, electricity and environmental projects after months of hands-on STEM instruction, with winners announced across all grade levels during Tuesday's event.

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Liam Dyer presents his project, "The Rising Water Phenomenon," during Ricardo Richards Elementary School's 2026 Science Fair. By. ERNICE GILBERT, V.I. CONSORTIUM.

Ricardo Richards Elementary School on Tuesday hosted its 2026 Science Fair, highlighting months of scientific study and hands-on STEM instruction by students in grades three through six.

The event brought together projects rooted in engineering principles, experimentation, and applied scientific reasoning, reflecting lessons students have been building since the beginning of the school year. Under the guidance of their science teachers, participants have been intentionally learning and applying the scientific method while strengthening problem-solving and analytical thinking skills.

School officials said the fair provided students an opportunity to showcase what they have learned thus far, while continuing to build and refine their STEM skills throughout the remainder of the academic year.

Projects presented during the fair spanned multiple scientific disciplines, including engineering and electricity, environmental science, and battery experimentation. Judges evaluated entries across all grade levels.

Third grade winners were:

1st Place: #29 Hydraulic Lift, Aarion Fontenelle

2nd Place: #33 Simple Circuit, Cynia Velasquez

3rd Place: #32 Water Filter, Ajahri Ferrance

Fourth grade winners were:

1st Place: #11 Conducting Electricity, O’Nae Milligan

2nd Place: #12 Potato Electricity, Natalia LeBlanc

3rd Place: #10 Bioluminescent Water, Marley Robinson

Fifth grade winners were:

1st Place: #28 Get Moving, Gianna Aloyo

2nd Place: #23 How Does Vision Affect Balance, Cheyanna Aloyo

3rd Place: #24 Twist That Travels, Kahlea Camacho

Sixth grade winners were:

1st Place: #1 AAA Battery, Cairo Blackwood

2nd Place: #5 Temperature Affects 9V Battery Life, Cailey Andrew

3rd Place: #4 The Potato Battery Experiment, Jadiel Francis

Organizers extended appreciation to the panel of judges — Victoria Rivera, MD; Angelo Fernandez; Cheru Ross; Wanda Vialet; Tafari Nelson; Juel Mills; Joann Lewis; and Bevan Smith Jr. — for their time, expertise, and evaluations.

A special acknowledgment was given to in-school Science Fair Coordinator Kia McNamara-Michael, whose leadership and organization ensured the event’s execution.

The school also thanked parents and guardians for their continued support, noting that their partnership plays a role in fostering curiosity, perseverance, and academic achievement among students.

School officials said the RRES Science Fair reflects a commitment to sustained STEM instruction and preparing students to think critically, innovate, and apply scientific reasoning beyond the classroom. “One Team, One Mission. Excellence in Action.”