

SCIENCE FAIR RULES AND GUIDELINES

NOTE: These rules and guidelines have been designed such that any entrant in the San Francisco Science Fair at the Randall Museum will be eligible to go from there into the San Francisco Bay Area Science Fair.

- 1) Work exhibited should be done by the entrant. Outside advising from parents, teachers, or professionals is fine, but the student must do his or her own work and appropriately cite any help received.
- 2) Projects done by teams of up to four students in the same grade will be accepted into the San Francisco Science Fair at the Randall Museum, but the San Francisco Bay Area Science Fair accepts only projects done by one student.
- 3) **The student's name and any identifying information (school, teacher's name, etc.) may appear only on the back of the project and/or in a corner of the display small enough to be covered by a 3" by 5" card.** Names and faces may not be visible during judging. Awards or ribbons from your school science fair must be removed before setting up a display.
- 4) When set up for display, the project must be **no larger than 44 inches wide by 20 inches deep** and must be able to **stand on a table by itself** for at least two weeks. It should be labeled similarly to the diagram on page 6 in this booklet. Museum staff will not repair a poorly constructed display or in any other way attend to the equipment. **Because it is often necessary to move projects after they are set up, the entire display must be sturdy and easily portable. Display of experimental apparatus is strongly discouraged; please use photographs, descriptions, and diagrams instead.**
- 5) All electrical apparatus used in experiments must be built according to standard electrical safety laws. Projects that use 110 or more volts may not use push-button switches (doorbell type) or open-knife switches. All projects using 110 or more volts must have a main disconnect switch of a type approved by the National Board of Underwriters. All wires must be of the size and insulation appropriate for the current and voltage used. All electrical apparatus of 110 or more volts must be enclosed to prevent users from receiving an electrical shock.
- 6) In keeping with SFBASF guidelines, electricity will not be provided by the San Francisco Science Fair. Working electrical devices included in the display can be powered only by batteries.
- 7) Dangerous chemicals, drugs, heat or flame, and explosives must not be exhibited.
- 8) No hypodermic needles, syringes, glass, or other sharp or hazardous objects may be exhibited.
- 9) **No live or dead animals, plants, or cultures (bacteria, fungi, molds, etc.), soil, food, or liquids may be exhibited;** use photographs or drawings instead.
- 10) **Projects that involve animals, humans (including surveys!), pathogens, or controlled substances must meet the ethical and project proposal submission requirements of the San Francisco Bay Area Science Fair Fair.** Students should keep copies of all forms submitted. For more information, see the SFBASF website, <http://home.pacbell.net/sfbasf/>.
- 11) Museum staff reserve the right to remove from display and, if necessary, dispose of inappropriate items as outlined above. Final decision as to the appropriateness of any item is at the discretion of the Science Fair Coordinator.
- 12) Entrants are responsible for the installation, maintenance, and removal of their projects. **All projects must be removed from the Randall Museum by 5 p.m. Saturday, March 8.** Leftover projects will be discarded after this date. Museum staff will not be responsible for the security of items exhibited.