

1985

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Recommended Citation

(1985) "Science Notes - The Sixth Annual Thomas Edison / Max McGraw Scholarship Program," *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*: Vol. 22 : No. 1 , Article 11.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj/vol22/iss1/11>

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SCIENCE NOTES

THE SIXTH ANNUAL THOMAS EDISON/MAX MCGRAW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Open to High School Students in Grades 9-12
12 Finalists — \$20,000 in Scholarships and Educational Travel

The Thomas Alva Edison Foundation and the Max McGraw Foundation are co-sponsoring a scholarship program open to all high school students with an interest in science and engineering.

Their purpose is to give recognition by awarding 12 scholarships to students who most nearly demonstrate the inventive genius of both Thomas Alva Edison and Max McGraw.

Rules and Regulations

1. All high school students in public, private, and parochial schools are eligible.
2. The entry shall consist of: (1) a proposal which may be an abstract of an already completed experiment or a projected idea which deals with a practical application in the fields of science and/or engineering; and (2) a single letter of recommendation from the student's teacher/sponsor which indicates how the student best exemplifies the creativity and ingenuity demonstrated by the life and work of inventors Thomas Edison and Max McGraw.
3. The proposal should be typed in standard English on 8½" × 11" paper, not to exceed 1,000 words or five pages, and the letter of recommendation should not exceed two typewritten pages.
4. There is no formal entry form. The entry consists of the proposal and the letter of recommendation. The cover sheet of the proposal must contain: (a) the title of the entry; (b) student's name; (c) home address; (d) home telephone number; (e) student's grade level; (f) teacher/sponsor's name; (g) name of school; (h) school address; and (i) school telephone number.
5. The 25 semifinalists will be notified of their selection by January 1, 1986. All the teachers/sponsors will receive a summary report identifying the names of the semifinalists and finalists after the Grand Award Scholars have been selected.
6. Each entry must be sent to: Edison/McGraw Scholarship Program, c/o Dr. Robert A. Dean, P.O. Box 80953, San Diego, CA 92138.
7. Entries must be postmarked no later than Sunday, December 1, 1985.
8. All entries will be judged on originality, creativity and the exemplification of the ideals of Thomas Edison and Max McGraw.
9. All entries become the property of the Thomas Alva Edison Foundation and Max McGraw Foundation Scholarship Program.

Awards:

1. Twelve students will be designated finalists and receive their scholarships at the time of their graduation from high school.
2. Two of the 12 finalists will be selected as Thomas Edison/Max McGraw Grand Award Scholars and will each receive \$5,000 scholarships and an all-expense-paid trip to the International Birthday Celebration Symposium as guests of the General Electric Company.

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3. The teachers/sponsors of the Grand Award Scholars will also be given an all-expense-paid trip to the NSTA Annual Convention in San Francisco, California in March 1986. They will receive a special certificate in recognition of their students' achievement.
4. Ten remaining finalists will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship.
5. Certificates will be awarded to the teacher/sponsor and the high school of each of the twelve finalists.

This program is coordinated by the National Science Supervisors Association and the Council of State Science Supervisors, division affiliates of the National Science Teachers Association.

Comet Halley Returns, A Teacher's Guide 1985-86

Comet Halley Returns, A Teachers' Guide, 1985-1986, EP-197, is an aid for elementary and secondary school teachers.

This most famous of all comets and its 1985-86 rendezvous with Earth and the Sun has already generated a widespread interest in comets in general and Comet Halley in particular. Comet Halley's return this year will offer a unique learning opportunity for students at all levels to gain the skills, understanding and enthusiasm necessary to study science.

The *Teacher's Guide* is designed to meet the growing interest of teachers and their students. Developed under the auspices of the Educational Office at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), the guide is divided into two parts. The first was written by Dr. Robert D. Chapman, Associate Chief of the Laboratory for Astronomy and Solar Physics at GSFC. It is a brief tutorial which introduces some of the most important concepts about comets, including their historical significance. A list of selected readings at the end of the section provides a resource for those who wish a more in-depth treatment.

The second part of the guide was prepared by Dr. R. Lynn Bondurant, Jr., Educational Services Officer at the NASA Lewis Research Center. This section, titled Educational Activities, contains a number of suggested classroom exercises and carefully described field work to observe the comet. Guidance is provided on where to look for the comet, how to observe it, and how to photograph it. Virtually every exercise can be done without special equipment. All that is needed is some thought on the part of the teacher to adapt the activities to the appropriate grade level.

Individual copies of the guide may be obtained from GSFC at the following address: Elva Bailey, Educational Programs Officer, Code 130, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771.

— NASA, *Report to Educators*, 12(4), Winter 1984