Science Olympiad Partners with DuPont Pioneer and the Food Bank for the Heartland to Fight Hunger

Some of the brightest and most talented students and educators in the nation visit academic campuses each year to compete in more than 380 Science Olympiad tournaments across the US. *It's good to be smart.*

To shine a light on the power of charitable giving and utilize gifts displayed by its participants, Science Olympiad wants to contribute to positive change in communities that host our events. *It's smart to be good.*

To kick off this effort, Science Olympiad is partnering with DuPont Pioneer at the 31st Annual 2015 Science Olympiad National Tournament at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, to address the local issue of hunger and food insecurity in the greater Lincoln/Omaha area. Students, parents, teachers and volunteers will be invited to donate to the Food Bank for the Heartland – which will be matched 100% up to $5,000 by DuPont Pioneer. The Science Olympiad community could potentially give $10,000 to families in need; for every $1 received the Food Bank will be able to provide three meals. A website will be live from May 4 to May 26, 2015:

[http://lincolnfoodbank.org/ScienceOlympiad/](http://lincolnfoodbank.org/ScienceOlympiad/)

“Empowering students to think outside themselves and help provide solutions to those in the communities we visit is tremendously important to our organization,” said Jim Woodland, National Executive Board Member of Science Olympiad. “We are also excited to get students thinking about solutions to real-world scientific problems.”

In addition, Science Olympiad and DuPont Pioneer will issue a challenge to middle and high school students competing in Science Olympiad related to nutrition and agriculture in conjunction with the Green Generation event. Discovering new ways to feed the world using effective practices is a problem today's students can readily tackle.

*Science Olympiad is an Oakbrook Terrace-based, national non-profit organization founded in 1984 dedicated to improving the quality of K-12 STEM education, increasing male, female and minority interest in science, creating a technologically literate workforce and providing recognition for outstanding achievement by both students and teachers. More than 220,000 students and 35,000 teachers on 7,300 teams from all 50 states competed in 380 regional, state and national Science Olympiad tournaments last year. A signature program started in 2007, the Science Olympiad Urban Schools Initiative, provides schools with minority enrollment the additional training and resources needed for students and teachers to succeed in Science Olympiad’s hands-on STEM competitions.*

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