



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Utah Science Teacher Named District Winner in the 2015 Shell Science Lab Challenge

18 District Winners Competing For Up To \$93,000 in Prizes, Including a \$20,000 School Science Lab Makeover Support Package

ALPINE, Utah — March 23, 2015 —Tara Edwards, a science teacher at Mountainville Academy in Alpine, Utah, has been named a district winner in the Shell Science Lab Challenge, a competition for middle and high school science teachers. Sponsored by the Shell Oil Company and administered by the [National Science Teachers Association](http://www.nsta.org) (NSTA), the competition encouraged teachers (grades 6-12), who have found innovative ways to deliver quality lab experiences with limited school and laboratory resources, to share their approaches for a chance to win a school science lab makeover support package valued at \$20,000. Edwards is one of 18 district winners named, from which five national finalists will be chosen, and from the national finalists a grand prize winner will be selected.

Mountainville Academy's limited funding and resources, along with outdated materials and computers, challenge Edwards and her students to be resourceful, and they often craft their own materials. For example, Edwards has developed an innovative lab activity to teach students about comets, asteroids, and meteors. To simulate how a comet orbits the Sun, she uses dry ice and other common materials to create a model of a comet that she and her students can observe while protected by safety goggles and gloves. The demonstration incorporates science and engineering practices and crosscutting concepts that support the Next Generation Science Standards. "Mrs. Edwards' innovative, hands-on approach to science has excited our students about science and taken their understanding of science to the next level," her principal maintains.

"With little funding and scarce resources these educators have developed innovative educational techniques and inspired science learning in their students," said Dr. David Evans, Executive Director, NSTA. "We are very proud of all of the 2015 Shell Science Lab Challenge District Winners. Their unique ideas and creative approaches to teaching science produce new awareness and ways for us all to bring about positive change in education."

“Inquiry-based learning and hands-on experimentation are key elements for encouraging student interest in science,” said Dr. Frazier Wilson, Vice President, Shell Oil Company Foundation, Manager, Social Investment. “The Shell Science Lab Challenge strives to support inquiry-based instructional practices of our science teachers and excite students about the wonders and possibilities of science through active learning that emphasizes questioning, data analysis, and critical thinking. Exemplary science teaching is more relevant when it occurs in a quality lab environment where science concepts can be explored by students.”

To enter the Shell Science Lab Challenge, science teachers of grades 6-12 in the United States and Canada were asked to describe their school’s current laboratory resources, explain why the school’s laboratory facilities might be classified as “limited” resources, and describe their approach to science education instruction utilizing their school’s current lab facilities. A panel of science educators then reviewed and selected the top entries.

As a district winner, each teacher and their school will receive a \$3,000 science lab prize package that includes:

- \$1,000 Shell grant to purchase lab equipment and other science education resources;
- \$1,000 in donated science lab equipment from [Ward’s Science](#);
- \$300 gift certificate to the [NSTA Science Store](#);
- One year NSTA membership for two teachers;
- [NSTA Learning Center](#) subscription for two teachers; and
- Paid registration for two teachers to attend a [2015 NSTA Area Conference on Science Education](#).

To view the list of 2015 Shell Science Lab Challenge District Winners and for more information about the Challenge, visit the competition [web site](#).

About Mountainville Academy

Mountainville Academy is a public charter school located in Alpine, Utah that provides an outstanding educational choice for students from Kindergarten through 9th grade. In partnership with parents, Mountainville Academy's mission is to employ an educational environment that promotes both academic and personal excellence, appreciation of heritage and cultures, and a love of learning, to assist students in acquiring the confidence, knowledge, skills and character to facilitate life-long learning pursuits and achievements.

About NSTA

The Arlington, VA-based [National Science Teachers Association](#) (NSTA) is the largest professional organization in the world promoting excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all. NSTA's current membership includes approximately 55,000 science teachers, science supervisors, administrators, scientists, business and industry representatives, and others involved in science education.

About Shell Oil Company

Shell’s commitment to community and social responsibility has been in place for more than 50 years. During this time, we have contributed more than a billion dollars to support community,

health and welfare, environmental, arts and cultural activities, various educational initiatives, including minority education, and diversity and inclusiveness programs in Houston and the U.S.

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This press release contains forward-looking statements concerning the financial condition, results of operations and businesses of Royal Dutch Shell. All statements other than statements of historical fact are, or may be deemed to be, forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are statements of future expectations that are based on management's current expectations and assumptions and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, performance or events to differ materially from those expressed or implied in these statements. Forward-looking statements include, among other things, statements concerning the potential exposure of Royal Dutch Shell to market risks and statements expressing management's expectations, beliefs, estimates, forecasts, projections and assumptions.

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(e) reserves estimates; (f) loss of market share and industry competition; (g) environmental and physical risks; (h) risks associated with the identification of suitable potential acquisition properties and targets, and successful negotiation and completion of such transactions;

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(l) political risks, including the risks of expropriation and renegotiation of the terms of contracts with governmental entities, delays or advancements in the approval of projects and delays in the reimbursement for shared costs; and (m) changes in trading conditions. All forward-looking statements contained in this press release are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section.

Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Additional risk factors that may affect future results are contained in Royal Dutch Shell's 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2013 (available at www.shell.com/investor and www.sec.gov).

These risk factors also expressly qualify all forward looking statements contained in this press release and should be considered by the reader. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of this press release, March 2, 2015.

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