

Local teens fare well in international science fair

Several Fayette County teenagers brought home prestigious awards from the 2009 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

Ben Nosarzewski earned second place in physics and astronomy (\$1,500 prize) and will have an asteroid named after him by the MIT Lincoln (Near Earth) Observatory. Shelly Xu placed third in animal sciences (\$1,000 prize), and Ilya Vinogradov finished fourth in chemistry (\$500 prize). In the special awards, Ilya was awarded first place in chemistry (\$3,000 prize) by the U.S. Air Force. All three are students at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School.

Also competing during the week of May 10 were Dunbar's Aaron Davidson and Brian Fei, and Curtis Northcutt of Lafayette High School.

The Intel international fair hosted students from 54 countries and all 50 United States. Only three cities worldwide (Portland, Ore., with five; Roslyn Heights, N.Y., with four; and San Jose, Calif., with four) had more Grand Award individual winners than Lexington. Albuquerque, N.M.; New York, N.Y.; and Louisville also had three individual winners.