



# “Meet the MARS Challenge!” Fair Rules

May 31, June 1 & 2, 2019

## Eligibility

“Meet the MARS Challenge!” is open to **any** student in grades 2 through 8.

## Location

The location of “Meet the MARS Challenge!” is in the lower level of the Mars Masonic Hall. The entrance faces E. Railroad Street, the railroad tracks, and the rear of the Mars Bank.

## Application for Entry

- View the requirements, then complete and send an online entry submission found at <http://marsnewyear.com/student-challenge-2/>
- Additional questions can be forwarded to this email address: [meetthemarschallenge@gmail.com](mailto:meetthemarschallenge@gmail.com)
- If students decide to withdraw, let us know as soon as possible so that the space can be reassigned. Students should apply early to avoid disappointment.
- If there are team members of different age groups, the entry will be placed in the higher age category. Example: If a 4<sup>th</sup> grader and a 6<sup>th</sup> grader enter together, that entry will be placed in the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> age category.
- The decision to deny entry rests with the Fair Committee and such decisions shall be final.

## Categories of Entries

Entries will be accepted in one the following categories:

- M (Mechanical)** – examples: transportation, rockets, drones, robotics, energy, architectural, construction, engineering, atmosphere control, etc.
- A (Agricultural)** – examples: biology, food, water, soil, etc.
- R (Relationship)** – communications, art, recreation, psychology, government, education, etc.
- S (Survival)** – medical, waste management, food storage, fitness, etc.

## Exhibits

- **The exhibit must describe a problem in one of the MARS categories listed above. It should show an attempt at solving a problem Earthling pioneers would face on the next great frontier, the planet MARS!**
- An entry may be of 1 person up to 3 students.
- A student may only be involved in 1 exhibit.
- Each entry will be allowed an area about 4 feet wide by 3 feet deep space.
- Tables will be provided.
- No exhibits are to be removed before 3 p.m. Sunday, June 2, 2019.
- All exhibits must be removed by 6 p.m. Sunday, June 2, 2019.

## Safety Requirements

Whether an exhibit is safe or not is determined by the members of the Fair Committee, and their decision is final.

- No poisons, drugs, controlled substances, hazardous substances or devices are allowed (ex: firearms, weapons, ammunition and reloading devices). No sharp items are allowed (ex: syringes, needles, pipettes, and knives)
- Use tape to secure hoses and cords.
- Open flames and heat sources must not be used unless protected and previously approved by the Fair Committee.
- No home-made battery chargers allowed.

- Dangerous chemicals should be avoided.
- Disconnect the power connection to your apparatus at the end of the day or the viewing period.
- Dangerous moving parts such as belts, gears, pulleys, propellers, or fan blades must be suitably guarded.
- No flammable or poisonous gases.
- All lasers used must have a power of 1 milliwatt or less. Precautions must be taken to ensure that the direct beam never reaches the eye of the observer.

## Animals

Small animals that are in a covered cage or aquarium may be permitted. However, these animals are NOT permitted to stay overnight. In-other-words, they must be removed at the end of the day and brought back the next day.

## Setting Up of Exhibits

Exhibits should be set up between 5 pm and 8 pm Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Contact Shelly Watson, 724-766-2329, if you need to set up on Saturday.

## Judging and Exhibitors' Attendance

- It is not mandatory to be at your exhibit during the Celebration. It is not mandatory for you to be at your exhibit when the judges are assessing the projects Sunday morning. Yet, if you feel it would help to talk about your project with the judges that would be your choice to be present at that time. There is always added benefit to converse with the judges who are professionals in many fields of study.
- “Meet the MARS Challenge!” Committee will appoint judges. The decision of the judges is final.

## Security of Exhibits

- Exhibitors are responsible for the maintenance and protection of their own exhibits during the Celebration. We recommend that cameras and other expensive small items not be left unattended.
- The building will be locked Friday night, reopening Saturday morning for the enjoyment of the public. It will then be locked again Saturday night, then reopening Sunday morning for the judges to determine the winners.

## Awards

- The judges reserve the right to reassign an exhibit's category.
- It is the Committee's suggestion **at this time** to give cash prizes in the following 4 categories as shown below, and yet the distribution of prize moneys is dependent on the number of participants and the quality of exhibits in each category.
- Any award may be withheld at the discretion of the judges if no exhibit in that division is deemed to be of sufficient merit.
- The judges' discretion may create additional awards.
- School Districts with participants will be acknowledged with a monetary award to further their STEAM education.
- The winners will be announced at a time **to be determined** on or after 12pm Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the main stage (in front of Mars Bank). It is not mandatory for the winners to be present.

There are 4 categories of cash prizes:

**M (Mechanical)** - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize (possibly Honorable Mention)

**A (Agricultural)** - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize (possibly Honorable Mention)

**R (Relationship)** - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize (possibly Honorable Mention)

**S (Survival)** - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize (possibly Honorable Mention)

## Division of Team Prizes

One winning cash prize will be awarded to a team. A team is when an exhibit has more than 1 member but no more than

3. It is the responsibility of the team to divide the money equally among the members of that team.