

CONTEST OVERVIEW

High school students are asked to imagine that they are living 25 years in the future and have been invited to write an article for [ChemMatters](#), a magazine for high school students that focuses on the role of chemistry in everyday life. The subject of the article is:

“Describe a recent breakthrough or innovation in chemistry (and/or its applications) that has improved the quality of people’s lives today.”

In addition to the article, students are asked to design a cover for the magazine.

The article must be written as if the student is living in the year 2038, looking back at innovations that have occurred since 2013.

For the 2013 contest, the innovation must fall into one of the following categories:

- * Alternative Energy Sources
- * Medicine/Health
- * Environment
- * New Materials

Examples of areas where development is expected are: nanometer-scale systems, energy efficiency, pollution prevention, microfluidics, intelligent devices for sensing, proteomics, climate models, biopharmaceutical therapies, medical devices, new energy sources and implants.

Evaluation is based upon:

1. the written article (submitted in advance)
2. the presentation of the innovation on a self-standing display and interviews with judges (much like science fair judging).

[TIE-IN TO NATIONAL STANDARDS](#)

The grades 9-12 Content Standards of the [National Science Education Standards](#) support a multidisciplinary perspective and encourage teachers to provide opportunities for integrated/multidisciplinary approaches to science teaching. In particular, the History and Nature of Science Standards support the need of students to understand that “science reflects its history and is an ongoing, changing enterprise.” Engaging students in this project will give them the opportunity to see that science is a human endeavor which incorporates the ability to ask questions, think critically and logically, make decisions based on data, and communicate scientific arguments.

RULES

ARTICLES must:

- be written by a team of two or three students; each student may be on only one team.
- be no more than 1000 words (figure captions are not included in the limit).
- present the chemistry/scientific concepts/ideas/principles behind the innovation.
- describe the innovation and indicate how it has improved people's lives.
- present a "history" of the changes that had to occur in 25 years to develop this innovation.
- include drawings, diagrams, illustrations and descriptions of the chemistry and any technology involved in all key aspects of the innovation.
- cite a minimum of three technical references.
- include a cover design for the magazine. The cover design can be an original computer graphic or a free-hand drawing.

Electronic copies of the article in Word or PDF format must be submitted to the contest coordinators along with the article submission form **by March 22, 2013**.

NOTE: For awardees going on to the regional competition, the articles and posters used at the local contest level can be modified and improved based on feedback received during the local competition.

DISPLAYS must:

- be less than 76 cm deep, 122 cm wide and 152 cm tall. (30" deep, 48" wide and 60" tall) (to sit on a table, much like at a science fair).
- include the cover of the magazine.
- be a visual representation of the article's content with a minimum of text.
- include a list of references cited.

ATTENDANCE

- At least one member of the team must attend the contest to present the display and interview with two or three judges to be eligible for prizes.

SCORING

- Winners are selected by the judges based on the two scores the students have received (one for the article and one for the interview/poster).
- Prizes will be awarded for First and Second Place in each category

ELIGIBILITY/REQUIREMENTS

- All students must be currently enrolled in a grades 9-12 science class at an accredited school or home school in the area.
- First place winners in each category are eligible to compete at the regional level.
- Students and their parents are responsible for transportation to and from the meeting site.

- Schools should notify the contest coordinators in writing of their intent to participate in Chemagination and remain in communication with the Chemagination Coordinators during the time leading up to the contest.
- Acceptance of the prize constitutes consent to use the winners' names, likenesses, and entries for editorial, advertising, and publicity purposes. This includes publication of the articles, if selected, in an actual issue of ChemMatters magazine.
- Prizes are not transferable.
- Taxes, if any, are the sole responsibility of the winner.

KEY DATES

March 22, 2013: Article Submission Forms and electronic copies of articles in PDF format are due from each team to the Chemagination Coordinator.

April 13, 2013: The teams will bring their tabletop displays to Stevenson University, where judging will take place. Teachers, parents, and other students are also welcome!

May 18, 2013: Tentative date for the *Mid-Atlantic Regional Chemagination Competition* at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.