

# The Detroit Chemist

May 2024

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National Organization for the Professional Advancement  
of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers

**Registration & Abstract Submission Open!**

**Early Bird (4/15 - 4/30)**  
\$10 Student  
\$75 Professional

**Regular (5/1 - 5/15)**  
\$25 Student  
\$100 Professional

Discounted student housing available to those that register by 4/30!

\*Abstracts for poster presentations must be submitted at time of registration & may be considered for oral presentation upgrade if submitted by 4/30.

## NOBCChE Midwest Regional Symposium

June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024

Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI

Join us as we celebrate scientific excellence, grow as professionals and leaders, and foster our Midwest NOBCChE community

Registration: [tinyurl.com/MWRS2024](https://tinyurl.com/MWRS2024)  
Website: [sites.google.com/view/midwestnbcche](https://sites.google.com/view/midwestnbcche)

Questions? Contact Dr. Jade Bing at [mwregion@nbcche.org](mailto:mwregion@nbcche.org)

*Submitted by Nawana Lawson*



ACS Local Section

Detroit

Jim Landis, Editor

Connecting our diverse community through our love of chemistry

# Why, Yes, Chemistry is Rocket Science Workshop!

**When:** Saturday, June 1, 10 am – 3 pm - Pack a lunch!

**Who:** You and your family

**What:** A model rocketry make-and-launch workshop:

"Why, Yes, Chemistry IS Rocket Science!" and kid-orientated battery demonstrations and experiments. In the model rocketry activity, we'll learn the chemistry of model rocketry, and attendees will be able to build a simple model rocket, decorate, and then launch it. There will also be chemistry demonstrations by [Tommy Technetium](#).

**Agenda:**

10:00 – 10:20 – check-in at Veteran's Park

10:30 – presentation and hands-on building of your model rocket begins! You must register in advance to build a rocket. Ages 9+ to build!

12:30 – chemistry demos at Veteran's Park and launching rockets at Ford Field Park

1:30 – chemistry demos at Veteran's Park and launching rockets at Ford Field Park

**Where:** Livonia Ford Field and Veterans Park



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Due to time and safety considerations, the number of rockets that can be launched at the event is limited to adults and children 9 years old or older, so reservations with a \$5 refundable fee for the rocket make and launch activity will be required for each rocket built. To sign up build and launch a rocket, please fill out the form that can be found at:

<https://forms.gle/4q3wD26dAGrtSMcT6>

If you do not want to build a rocket, come to the park in the afternoon for demonstrations and experiments to safely learn about chemistry.

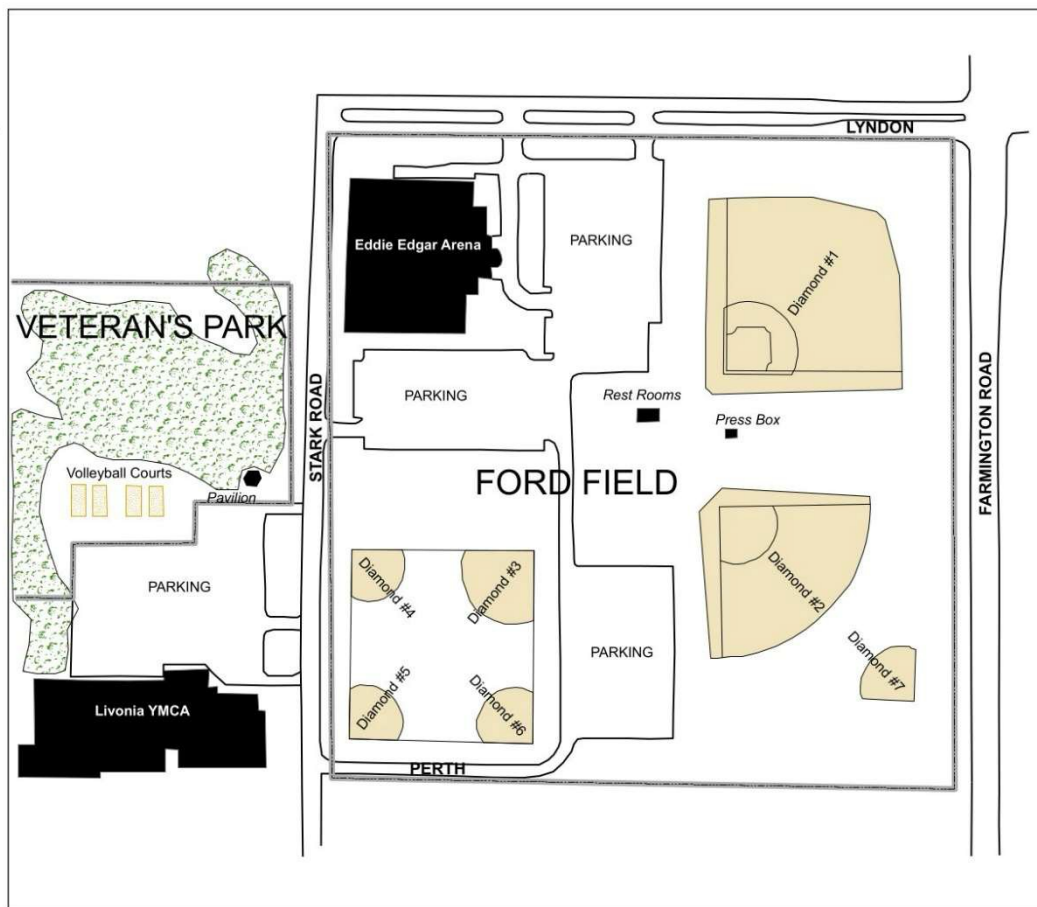
**Robert Alway** has given over a dozen events for the scouts and elementary schools. He is a member of many model rocketry organizations including SMASH rocketry (Southwest Michigan Association of Spacemodeling Hobbyists, section #500 of NAR, National Association of Rocketry). He is the current senior advisor for smash rocketry (<http://www.smashrocketry.org/>). He has participated in contest rocketry at local, regional, and sometimes nationally. Robert and his brother Peter have a patent for "Rocket with backwards gliding recovery" and Peter has authored several rocketry books.

This event is organized by the Detroit Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Thank you Livonia Parks and Recreation for hosting this educational event.

# Why, Yes, Chemistry is Rocket Science Workshop!



## FORD FIELD AND VETERAN'S PARK



Directions from the east: take I-96 west to Farmington Rd (exit 174) and turn right (north) 0.5 miles to Ford Field, on the left.

*Submitted by Carmen Folk*

# How to Succeed in Industry Workshop

Presented by Detroit ACS career chair Heinz Plaumann

**Join us for a morning of networking, exclusive one-on-one resume polishing, and interview practice to stand out in today's job market!**

**Who:** undergraduate/graduate students and career chemists looking to freshen up their skills, bring copies of your resume!

**What:** a FREE resume and elevator speech prep work focusing on industrial careers

**When:** Saturday, May 18, 9am-12 noon

**Where:** Room C120, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Chemistry Building at University of Detroit Mercy

Please RSVP via link or QR Code  
<https://forms.gle/CW46TXHrk2eGMCmHA>



## Agenda:

9:00 check-in, breakfast, networking

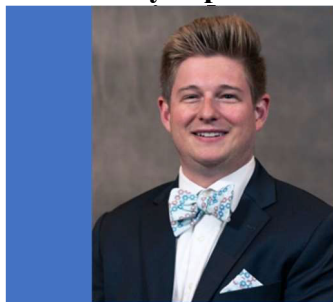
9:30 Getting a Job is a Project – Heinz Plaumann

10:15 On-on-one Resume reviews by industry experts, speed elevator speech practice

11:00 Mock Interviews

11:45 Final Q&A

## About our industry experts:



Jacob Brutman, Ph.D.  
Digital Manager, Performance  
Materials, BASF, Corp.,  
Wyandotte, MI

Jacob loves meeting aspiring chemists. His experience in various roles and computer enthusiasm makes him dedicated to jumpstarting your career.



Michele Allen, Ph.D.  
Lab Team Leader, Home Care and  
I&I Application Testing and  
Technical Service, BASF, Corp.,  
Wyandotte, MI

Michele has over 16 years' experience in the chemical industry and enjoys mentoring others toward successful careers.



Heinz Plaumann, Ph.D.  
Fellow, Adjunct Professor, Detroit  
ACS Career Committee Chair,  
Speaker, Author, Consultant

Heinz has over 30 years' experience and will always make the time for you and help reach your goals.

*Submitted by Carmen Folk*

# CSC/ACS Annual International Awards Banquet

Many of you may not know that we alternate our awards dinner between the Detroit Local Section and the University of Windsor Canadian Society for Chemistry (CSC) in Windsor. This year is Windsor's turn and they have a fantastic menu and speaker set up. We are inviting all our student, local section, and anniversary award winners as is the CSC.

I encourage you to attend and you are welcome to bring guests. This banquet is generally a fun evening. The event information is below. For any questions, please contact Sue White, [saw@wayne.edu](mailto:saw@wayne.edu).

Please RSVP by Thursday, May 16 at: <https://www.uwindsor.ca/science/chemistry/566/chemistry-awards-banquet>

If paying with a US dollar credit card the \$80 Canadian dollar price will be converted automatically by your credit card at the current exchange rate at your banking institution.

## 2024 CSC/ACS International Awards Banquet

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!



The **Canadian Society for Chemistry** and the **Detroit Section of the American Chemical Society** invites members, faculty, students, family, and friends to join us as we celebrate our award winners and honour distinguished members.

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 23rd, 2024 / 5 pm Cocktails (Cash Bar) / 6 pm Dinner / 7 pm Awards Program and Presentation

**WHERE:** The Windsor Club, 2072 Riverside Drive East, Windsor, ON

**WHAT:** Business Casual Attire / Buffet Style Dinner / Awards and Honorees /

Guest Speaker: **Dr. Siyaram Pandey**, Distinguished University Professor of Biochemistry, University of Windsor

Title Talk: *"Chemists and Chemistry of Life: My research journey to explore therapeutic interventions"*

Tickets are complimentary for award recipients and one guest.

Tickets for CSC / ACS members / faculty / other - \$80 CDN (tax included).

The menu is a buffet including: Twelve Hour Roast Beef, Rosemary & Lemon Chicken, Soy-Maple Glazed Salmon, Roasted Vegetables, Parisienne Potatoes, Chefs Pasta, Classic Caesar Salad, Mediterranean Orzo Salad, Market Salad, Assorted Breads & Spreads and assorted Pastries & Fruit Platter

NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES INCLUDED  
CASH BAR FOR ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

*Submitted by Sue White*

# 2024 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Detroit Local Section Competition

In late March 115 students representing 17 area high schools completed the Local Section exam for the US National Chemistry Olympiad. The exam was hosted by the chemistry discipline of the University of Michigan-Dearborn. The challenging exam consists of sixty multiple-choice questions covering twelve major chemistry topics. More than 9,000 students nationwide sat for this exam which is the first step in the process of selecting the four-person team to represent the United States in the International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO), to be held this year in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The top ten students on the Local Section exam were selected as Nominees of the Detroit Section; the next ten were named as Runners-up. Through the generosity of the Detroit Section the Nominees and Runners-up received cash prizes of \$100; those Nominees who completed the National Exam received an additional \$50. The complete list of Nominees and Runners-up appears below. Note that six of this year's Nominees were either Nominees or runners-up in 2023. Troy High School, Bill Hevel and Jeff Moore Chemistry teachers, was recognized with the 2024 Olympiad Achievement Award for having achieved the highest average score on the Local Section exam.

Nine Nominees returned to UM-Dearborn for the three-part national exam in late April. This demanding exam comprises a multiple-choice portion, free response questions, and two laboratory problems. From the more than eight hundred people nationwide who completed the National Exam, twenty will be chosen to attend the two-week Olympiad Study Camp at the University of Maryland. Results on the national exam were not available at press time.

The Chemistry Olympiad program is organized locally by Dr. Mark DeCamp, with the able assistance of Professors Simona Marincean, and Steve Scribner at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Dr. DeCamp also serves on the Olympiad subcommittee that prepares and grades the local and national exams.

## NOMINEES

Name	High School	Teacher
Aarush Das +	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore
Caleb Emerson	Brighton High School	Josef Hudacek
Arjun Janakiram	Novi High School	Rand Helmkamp
Henry Jiang +	Detroit Country Day School	Marc Drougel
Ethan Liu	Athens High School	Erich Beregszaszy
Houchao Peng	Detroit Country Day School	Marc Drougel
Alex Ponomarev #	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore
Vishnav Ramesh #	Athens High School	Erich Beregszaszy
Jake Song #	International Academy – Okma	Megan Phillips
Wenhan Xu +	Novi High School	Rand Helmkamp

# 2024 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Detroit Local Section Competition

## RUNNERS-UP

Name	High School	Teacher
Katherine Chen	Detroit Country Day School	Marc Drougel
Jaya Choudhary ≠	Salem High School	Scott Milam
Kashifah Hossain	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore
Ryeo-Won Kim	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore
Soo-Yeon Kim +	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore
Julia Liang	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore
Sourav Sadhneni	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore
Junho Seo	Cranbrook Kingswood School	Stephane Kokoszka
JoAnn Tu	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore
Austin Xiao +	Troy High School	Bill Hevel/Jeff Moore

# Nominee 2023

+ Runner-up, 2023

≠ Originally a Nominee, but unable to sit for the National Exam. Replaced by an alternate.

The Detroit Section is allotted ten Nominees. Nominees and Runners-up were selected based on their score on a sixty-question multiple choice exam.

Nominees must be U.S. citizens or hold a Green Card.

National Rule #4: No more than **two students per teacher** or **per high school** may be nominated to take the National Exam.



L to R: Aarush Das, Houchao Peng, Caleb Emerson, Wenhan Xu, Jake Song, Henry Jiang, Ethan Liu, Alex Ponomarev and Vishnav Ramesh

*Submitted by Mark Decamp*

# Would You Like Be On An ACS National Committee?

Dear ACS Colleague:

It is time to begin the process of making appointments to ACS Council-related committees for 2025. If you are interested in serving on an ACS Committee, the [online committee preference form](#) for committee assignments is the key way to let us know your committee preferences, your background and your interests.

**The online preference form will be open March 1 thru July 1, 2024 at**

<http://www.cmte.acs.org>.

When assembling recommendations for appointments by the ACS President and/or Board Chair, and the Committee on Committees (ConC) seeks to identify and involve individuals from across the Society. Members with a wide range of experiences, backgrounds and perspectives helps ensure that ACS remains relevant, innovative, and effective. Therefore, we are also encouraging local section and divisions officers to circulate the online preference information throughout their membership to encourage participation in the Society through committee service.

All submissions from the preference form are reviewed by ConC as it develops recommendations during the ACS Fall Meeting. ConC only makes the *recommendations* for committee appointments and reappointments. The ACS President and/or Board Chair, both individually and jointly, review the recommendations and make the actual *appointments* in late fall. Although not all can be appointed to committees, I can assure you that you will receive thorough consideration for an assignment.

As a reminder, your ACS membership must be in *good standing* to complete your committee preferences. Please make a committee preference only if you feel that you can attend and actively participate in a committee's meetings either virtually or in-person. **ACS committees are working committees; attendance (virtually or in-person) and participation at committee and subcommittee meetings are important.**

If you experience any problems or need assistance during this process, please contact the Office of the Secretary at [secretary@acs.org](mailto:secretary@acs.org). Thank you in advance for your cooperation, and for all your efforts on behalf of our Society. Sincerely,

Brian Mathes, Chair

ACS Committee on Committees (ConC)

# SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Date	Arranging Group	Program	Presenter	Location	Time
<b>2024</b>					
14 May	EC	Detroit ACS Executive Committee Meeting	Chair Sue White	WSU	7-8pm
18 May	Career Services	Career Event: about how to get jobs, how to be effective in them once a person has a job, one-on-one resume & CV guidance	Heinz Plaumann, Jacob Brutman & Michele Allen	UDM (see pg 4 for details)	9am-12
23 May	CSC/ACS	CSC / ACS Annual International Awards Banquet (see pg 5 for details)	Dr. Siyaram Pandry	Windsor Club	5pm Drinks, 6pm Dinner 7pm Presentation
June 1/ (Rain Date: June 8)	ACS and Rocketry Volunteers	Model Rocket Educational and Social Event (see pp 2-3 for details)	Robert Always and Tommy Technetium	Livonia Ford Field and Veterans Park	10am-3pm
18 June	Brewing Chemistry	Brewing Chemistry: Latine Undergraduate Students' Science Identity Formation	Danielle Maxwell, Ph.D. Candidate in Chemistry, University of Michigan	TBD	TBD
22-23 June	NOBCCHe	NOBCCCH Midwest Regional Symposium	Nawana Lawson	WSU	See pg 1 for details
TBD July?	EC	Annual Ice Cream Social, Meet the Leadership	EC committee	Clark's Ice Cream in Berkley	6-9pm?
18-22 August	ACS	ACS Fall National Meeting	ACS National	Denver, CO	
10 September	EC	Detroit ACS Executive Committee Meeting	Chair Sue White	WSU	7-8pm
17 September	Brewing Chemistry	TBD		TBD	TBD
8 October	EC	Detroit ACS Executive Committee Meeting	Chair Sue White	WSU	7-8pm
15 October	Brewing Chemistry	TBD		TBD	TBD

# SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Date	Arranging Group	Program	Presenter	Location	Time
TBD, Saturday in Fall	Career Services	Career Event: TBD, one-on-one resume & CV guidance	Heinz Plaumann, academia, industry volunteer	UDM First United Methodist Church of Troy (FUMC Troy)	TBD
TBA November	Minority Affairs	Girl Scout Chemistry Day	Michele Allen	First United Methodist Church of Troy (FUMC Troy)	9am-1pm
TBA November	ANACHEM	Annual ANACHEM	see Felix Schneider ANACHEM	TBD	TBD
6-9 November	CERM	2024 CERM	Pittsburgh Section (See: <a href="http://acscerm2024.org">acscerm2024.org</a> )	Pittsburgh, PA	All day/In person
12 November	EC	Detroit ACS Executive Committee Meeting	Chair Sue White	WSU	7-8pm
19 November	Brewing Chemistry	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
10 December	Brewing Chemistry	Brewing Chemistry: Field Trip	TBD	TBD	TBD

**Key:** TBA – To Be Announced      TBD – To Be Determined  
 Gray = EC (Executive Committee), Chair/CERM, planning meetings, National and Regional Events  
 Yellow = YCC (Younger Chemists Committee)  
 Green = USNCO, Kids and Chemistry, Kids-related event  
 Blue = General Detroit Local Section Event  
 Reddish/orange = Related Groups: Anachem, NOBCCHe  
 Turquoise = Career Services