Supercomputing Challenge

Program Description

The Challenge is an academic, year-long program that teaches mid school and high school students how to use powerful computers to model real-world problems and to explore computational approaches to their solutions. Teams of up to five students compete for prizes and scholarships, conducting independent research on scientific problems of interest to them. The Supercomputing Challenge is an exciting program that offers a truly unique experience for students in our state. Throughout the program, help and support are given to the teams by their project advisors and the Supercomputing Challenge organizers and sponsors.

FY12 Data/Impacts

**LANL funding:** Approximately $60K and half-time support of a Scientist 3. CCS Division provided $10K to be given for scholarships to Challenge seniors

**Primary sponsors** (50K/year): 1

**Educational partners** (event hosts, scholarships, and mentors): 20

**Commercial partners:**
- Gold (10K/year): 5
- Silver (5K/year): 3
- Bronze (2.5K/year): 14

**Friends of the Supercomputing Challenge** (Approximately $500/year): 13

**Program cost:** $350,000

**Cost per participant:** $1,000

**Program duration:** 1 year

**Teacher/faculty participants:** 74

**Student participants:** 430

**Community volunteers:** 90 LANL employees, 50 Sandia Labs employees, universities and businesses.

**Scholarships:** $42,000 in scholarships were awarded to 20 seniors.

**Number of student participants in 22 years:** 8,900
Supercomputing Challenge (continued…)

Program Demographics

- Hispanic and/or Latino: 40%
- Economically disadvantaged: 30%
- Women and/or girls: 40%
- American Indian and/or Alaskan Native: 10%

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