



Red River Valley Local Section  
U S N a T i O N A l C H e m I S t r y O l y m P i a d

31 December 2009

Dear Colleague:

I encourage you and your Chemistry students to participate in the **2010 United States National Chemistry Olympiad** (U S N C O). The goals of this program are to stimulate interest and achievement in Chemistry among high school students and to provide recognition of outstanding young chemistry students, teachers, and schools. The Red River Valley Local Section of the **American Chemical Society** will again conduct a preliminary screening of students through performance on a Local Section Examination especially prepared for the purpose by the ChemEd Exams Institute and presented at no cost to you, your students or your school.

The Local Section Exam will be administered on **27 March** at sites centered on the several institutes of higher education within the Local Section { Bemidji, Crookston, Grand Forks, Fargo/Moorhead, Mayville, Valley City, Jamestown, Bismarck, Minot, Dickinson, Wahpeton, Williston }. All students who participate will be recognized and presented with a certificate. The ten students with highest scores will receive recognition for outstanding performance. Ten students *{no more than two from any one high school Chemistry program}* will be nominated to take the National Examination **22-24 April, 2010**. The National Exam is composed of three parts: a 60 question multiple response exam similar to the Local Section Exam, a ~6 question essay component, and a laboratory practicum. The National Exam is usually scheduled to run from ~9:00 – 15:00 hours so the Local Section provides lunch for the Local Site Coordinators and student participants. Of these latter ten students, two will be recognized for superior performance { plaque, U S Savings bond, . . . }. Teachers and schools of the latter two students will also be recognized. We hope this recognition will serve to stimulate interest in, and to promote a positive attitude toward **CHemIStrY** in our region.

Students competing in the USNCO are eligible to be selected as members of the United States team for the **International Chemistry Olympiad** (I C H O). For the past twenty four years, the United States has sent a team of four students to compete with nations around the world at the IChO. The students participate in both theoretical and laboratory examinations over several days. Au, Ag, and bronze medals are awarded to the best performers, and the IChO provides students the opportunity to interact with their peers from other countries. The 2010 International event will be held in Tokyo, Japan, 19 - 28 July.

We encourage you to enter chemistry students from your school in this competition by completing and returning copies of the enclosed registration form before **5 March, 2010**. Thank you for helping promote chemical education in this area.

More information via links at <http://RedRiverValley.sites.ACS.org>

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