

## Guidelines for the AURS STEM Communicator Award:

1. The AURS STEM Communicator award is to encourage the communication of science to the public in an informative and compelling manner. Public understanding of science is critical for shared democracy, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the United States.
2. The award is modeled after the following: Virginia Tech's [Nutshell Games](#), Georgia Tech's [3 Min Thesis](#), and [The Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science](#).
3. STEM Communicators should review the [Better Posters](#) website as well as the [book](#) by Dr Zen Faulkes by the same name. The tips therein will help improve your research posters.
4. The award is open to all College of Natural Science and Mathematics undergraduates who have done a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics) research project spanning, at least, two semesters or a full summer in the year prior to the competition. "STEM" for the purposes of this award is taken to include any and all disciplines housed in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at the University of Central Arkansas.
5. The STEM Communicator award is a 3-minute live presentation by an undergraduate student or undergraduate team that explains their research and why it's important in a compelling and engaging way to the general public during the College of Natural Science and Mathematics STEM Poster Symposium on April 19th. No slides, no notes; just a standard sized research poster is allowed. Only undergraduates are eligible for the STEM Communicator Award.
6. The STEM Communicator award amount is as follows: first place (\$500), second place (\$250), third place (\$125). The award amount is divided among a team or group of students if the poster/research is presented by more than one student. Awards will not be given if the judges do not feel it is warranted.
7. Judges for the STEM Communicator award will be preferentially from the community (business leaders, nonprofits, school teachers, community volunteers, city or county government, etc). Judges should have no conflict of interest with any potential awardee.