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Google Science Fair and *Scientific American* Science in Action Return

PRESS RELEASE FROM NATURE PUBLISHING GROUP
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Bio-plastic made from banana peels and a flashlight powered by body heat were just two of the innovative and inspiring finalists for the 2013 *Scientific American* Science in Action award. Today marks the launch of the third annual \$50,000 *Scientific American* Science in Action award, powered by the Google Science Fair. The *Scientific American* Science in Action award honors a project that can make a practical difference by addressing an environmental, health or resources challenge. The Google Science Fair is open to young students aged 13 to 18 and entries are due May 12, 2014.

"Kids have lots of great ideas and have the power to change the world," says *Scientific American* Editor in Chief Mariette DiChristina. "We are thrilled to once again sponsor the *Scientific American* Science in Action award to recognize their great projects."

The finalists and winner of the *Scientific American* Science in Action award will be drawn from the entry pool of the Google Science Fair by a committee of esteemed judges. In addition to the \$50,000 cash prize, the winner will receive one year of mentoring to help realize the goal of her or his project and will be recognized at the 2014 Google Science Fair finalist event in September. More information is available at <http://www.scientificamerican.com/education/science-in-action/> and <https://www.google-science-fair.com>.

In 2013, Elif Bilgin, 16, of Istanbul, Turkey, won the *Scientific American* Science in Action award for her **project** to develop a bioplastic from discarded banana peels. The winning project in 2012 was a **Unique Simplified Hydroponic Method**, developed by two 14-year-old boys, Sakhiwe Shongwe and Bonkhe Mahlalela, both from Swaziland.

Scientific American has been a partner with the Google Science Fair, an annual international online competition, since it launched in 2011. For the fourth consecutive year, DiChristina will be the chief judge of the competition. Other partners of the Google Science Fair include [LEGO Education](#), [Virgin Galactic](#) and [National Geographic](#).

For more information about the Google Science Fair and the *Scientific American* Science in Action award, please visit:

Science in Action landing page: <http://www.scientificamerican.com/education/science-in-action/>
Google Science Fair 2014: <https://www.google-science-fair.com>

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Scientific American is at the heart of Nature Publishing Group's (NPG) consumer media division, meeting the needs of the general public. Founded in 1845, *Scientific American* is the longest continuously published magazine in the US and the leading authoritative publication for science in the general media. Together with scientificamerican.com and 14 local language editions around the world it reaches more than 5 million consumers and scientists. Other titles include *Scientific American Mind* and *Spektrum der Wissenschaft* in Germany.

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