



## National SMARTS School Correspondent Award: APPLICATION

The month of March is here and that can only mean one thing: Youth Science Month! **As part of this special time of the year, SMARTS has decided to launch the first annual SMARTS National Volunteer Awards.**

Up to **10** SMARTS School Correspondents will be recognized for their outstanding efforts with a **National SMARTS School Correspondent Award.**

In addition, the ten award recipients will be automatically considered for the prestigious **2008 National SMARTS Achievement Award**, the highest recognition awarded annually to a SMARTS volunteer. The recipient of this special honour will be recognized in front of a national audience at the 2008 Canada-Wide Science Fair in Ottawa, Ontario during May.

### **Awards Criteria - School Correspondent**

- You are a SMARTS school correspondent at a Canadian elementary, junior high, or secondary school.
- You demonstrate leadership qualities.
- You promote science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs, competitions and events at your school.
- You are active in making announcements, posting information and posters on bulletin boards, and delivering presentations to youth in your school about science.
- You inspire your fellow peers to get involved in SMARTS.

**If you have been a School Correspondent this past year, *we want you to apply!***

There are 3 parts to the National SMARTS School Correspondent Award Application:

- 1) Student Application Form**
- 2) Why you?**
- 3) Letter of Reference**

### **Important Dates:**

**Application Deadline:** April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 by 11:59 pm EST emailed to [smartsawards@gmail.com](mailto:smartsawards@gmail.com)

**Recipients Notified:** End of May 2008.

**Inquiries/Comments/Concerns:** [smartsawards@gmail.com](mailto:smartsawards@gmail.com)



## Part 1: Student Application Form

Please provide the following information in the form of a similar table in a word processing document. If there is any information you are unable to provide please explain why. *All information in your application is confidential and will be used solely for selection purposes by the SMARTS Awards Committee. Also note, if you are an award recipient, information such as your name and school may be released to the science community, and public.*

<b>Surname:</b>	<b>First Name:</b>
<b>Email Address:</b>	<b>Telephone Number:</b>
<b>Current Address:</b> Street:    Apt. #:  City:    Province:  Postal Code:	
<b>School:</b>	<b>Grade:</b>
<b>Birth Date:</b>	<b>Preferred Language:</b> English / French
<b>Gender:</b> Male / Female	

### Photographs (OPTIONAL):

If possible, please email us a portrait photograph of yourself, as well as any photographs of yourself as a SMARTS School Correspondent in action. Any photographs submitted should be in the TIFF format.



## **Part 2: Why You?**

In this section you tell us why you deserve a National SMARTS School Correspondent Award.

**Please type your answers to the following questions in a word processing document:**

**1. How have you made a difference as a SMARTS School Correspondent? (Talk about your impact on other students in your school, community, etc.)  
(120-150 words)**

**2. How would you make SMARTS even better? Where should we be in a few years?  
(120-150 words)**

**3. How has being a SMARTS School Correspondent helped you grow?  
(120-150 words)**

**4. Is there anything else you would like us to know?  
(Optional question, maximum 150 words)**



## Part 3: Letter of Reference

### To the Applicant:

Invite a principal, teacher, or guidance counsellor to write a **one-page LETTER OF REFERENCE** confirming your involvement as a SMARTS School Correspondent. Please bring the following to the attention of your referee.

### To the Referee:

Thank you for taking the time to help us assess this applicant. The **Student Mentorship Association Regarding Technology and Science (SMARTS)** is a student-run program within Youth Science Foundation (YSF) Canada that promotes science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) opportunities among students in Grades 7 through 12.

SMARTS consists of student volunteers who devote their time to helping other youth who have a passion for science. Your applicant is one such outstanding student, who encourages his or her peers at school to get involved with various STEM opportunities.

In your **one page** letter, please include: How long have you known the applicant, and in what capacity? How do you believe the applicant has contributed to SMARTS? How has the applicant used SMARTS to improve the engagement of his or her peers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics? What has the applicant learned from his or her experience? Why do you believe he or she deserves this award?

**Tell us anything you believe will help us to make the best decision possible for selecting recipients of a National SMARTS School Correspondent Award.**

Your letter **must:**

- Contain the full name of the applicant in the body of the letter.
- Be typed with size 12 font on official school letterhead.
- Stamped with official school stamp.
- Contain your signature at the bottom.
- Contain your work email address, as well as a phone number to reach you if necessary.

**When your letter is ready, please provide it to the student applicant. He/she will be responsible for scanning your letter and converting it to Adobe PDF form. The applicant will then email this letter to us, together with the rest of his/her application.**



## **A complete application package should include:**

- 1) STUDENT APPLICATION FORM
- 2) WHY YOU?
- 3) LETTER OF REFERENCE

\*\*\*Make sure your full name appears on every page of your application package.

\*\*\*Number your pages!

## **Application Submissions:**

Applicants should send all three parts of the application together to [smartsawards@gmail.com](mailto:smartsawards@gmail.com) by **April 15, 2008 at 11:59 EST**. Please write "School Correspondent Award Application" as the subject of the email.

**Reminder:** Part 3 (Letter of Reference) must be scanned in and converted to Adobe PDF form before being submitted. Parts 1 and 2 may be submitted in word processing document or Adobe PDF form.

You should receive an email confirming that your application has been received within 3 days of your submission. **If you do not receive a confirmation email, please let us know as soon as possible.**

## **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

Applications will be available on the website to students until April 15, 2008. **After April 15, 2008, applications will no longer be accepted.** Your application will be reviewed and recipients will be selected and notified by the end of May 2008.

*For all inquiries and concerns, please feel free to contact us at [smartsawards@gmail.com](mailto:smartsawards@gmail.com).*