TIPS AND TOOLS FOR PREPARING YOUR PROJECT
WHY APPLY FOR BROADCOM MASTERS?

• Broadcom MASTERS is the premier science and engineering competition for middle school students in the US.

• It is a great honor to be nominated. You may be selected as one of the 300 semi-finalists or even the 30 finalists. Don’t be afraid to apply thinking that your project is not good enough.
HOW DO I ENTER?

• To be nominated, you need to have placed in competition:

• LA County Science and Engineering Fair
  • 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place wins you a nomination

• California State Science Fair
  • 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Place wins you a nomination
PREPARATION TIPS

• **Open the application packet early** - please don’t wait until the last moment. (don’t expect to finish the application in a few hrs).

• The actual application process is done ONLINE (no personal interviews). The application will also be submitted online.

• **Use the code that you are given in the packet to sign up** so that they know which fair you are from. If you’re nominated by more than one fairs (e.g. LA County and the State), you may enter both codes.

• Whether you are nominated for county or state or both, **you will do the same application**.
GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE APPLICATION

• Note: All sections have word limit, so be concise

• Write about your project:
  • You cannot submit your project board - they will ask you questions about it (abstract, hypothesis, procedure, etc.) instead.
  • You can select info from project board if you want, but keep it concise.
  • You will be allowed to upload an one-sided visual-aid page of diagrams, charts, formulas, etc.
GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE APPLICATION

• Personality + Essays
  • Personality: This gives the judges an idea of who you are as a person. (extracurriculars, hobbies, interests, clubs, etc.)
  • An Essay question that exhibits your creative-science thinking: This gives the readers an impression of your scientific thinking, personality, problem solving skills, and just to get to know you as a person
    • THERE IS NO correct way to write essay. Be creative about it!
APPLICATION IS DUE IN JUNE OF THE SAME YEAR!

• You can work it as much as you would like until the due date.
• You can always modify after you submit your application until the deadline
TIPS FOR YOUR APPLICATION

• Watch past online webinars for frequently-asked questions.
• Participate in online webinars that will be held this year before the due date.
• Email questions you have quickly!
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

• Typically, about 2500 applications are submitted each year.

• 300 semifinalists are selected

• 30 finalists are announced in the fall
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

• 30 finalists compete in a week-long competition for more awards.
• Venue will typically be in Washington DC, though Silicon Valley has been a location for this as well.
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

• Final Week of Competition consists of:
  • one day - project judging and presentations.
  • two days - hands-on STEM challenges.
THANK YOU, NATHAN DENG!

2016 Broadcom Masters finalist Nathan Deng was awarded the Lemelson Award for Invention (a $7500 prize) for seeking to solve a real-world problem like oil spills. Through his project (Drop by Drop: Manipulating the Surface Tension of Water to Find the Best Way of Cleaning), Nathan sought to find an efficient cleaning method that is sustainable and environmentally safe.