Presentation Guidelines for Poster Award Finalists

Congratulations on being selected as a finalist for an AAA Poster Presentation Award! As an award finalist, you will present your poster to the judges during your regularly scheduled EB poster session. Your exact poster judging time will be emailed to you. AAA’s Committee for Early Career Anatomists (CECA) will be judging your poster and presentation. You will be competing against other finalists in your category for a chance to win a prize of $750 for first place ($500 in honorarium and $250 in meeting reimbursement expenses) and $400 for second place. The board increased the travel award and competition award amounts this year. The award winners will be announced at the AAA Closing Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, April 5th in Philadelphia. We also recommend that you upload your virtual poster in the EB program.

Postdoctoral Poster Presentation Award Finalists
Graduate Student Poster Presentation Award Finalists
Student/Postdoctoral Education Research Poster Presentation Award Finalists
Sponsored by Anatomical Sciences Education
Undergraduate Student Poster Presentation Award Finalists

Following are guidelines to follow and the criteria on which you will be judged (the most important part). Please feel free to contact Colby Shultz at the AAA staff in advance of the meeting if you have any questions (cshultz@anatomy.org). Best of luck in your presentation!

Prepare your poster no larger than 44" high and 44" wide. Note: You are sharing half of a full-sized poster board (90 inches long) with another presenter. Each presenter has 44" x 44" for their poster. Prepare a headline strip that runs the full width of the poster. Include the title, authors, and affiliations on the strip. EB recommends that authors post a large-typed copy of your abstract in the upper left-hand corner, including the program number (this is found in the Program and may be entered at the meeting). However, AAA prefers that the abstract body NOT be included on the poster board due to space issues. The abstract body is found in the EB online program. EB provides information on their website as a guide, but it does not need to be followed exactly https://www.experimentalbiology.org/presentation-information

Presentation

- **Time:** Your poster should be hung on your assigned poster board no later than 9:00 a.m. on the day of your presentation and posters must remain on display all day from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. You must be physically present at your poster during AAA’s Poster Manning Time. We allocate separate poster presentation times for odd and even poster. The first hour (10:15 - 11:15 am), posters with odd poster board numbers will be presented, and the second hour (11:15 am - 12:15 pm) will be for posters with even poster board numbers. The odd/even schedule provides the opportunity for poster presenters to also visit other poster presentations. By following the
odd/even numbered schedule attendees will know when an author will be present. Of course, you may stand at your poster for the full 2-hour poster presentation time. AAA will contact you in advance to provide you with your specific judging time. The CECA committee judges will be wearing a green Judges ribbon and will introduce themselves to you. If you are not there, your poster will be removed from the competition. Please note that your judging time could be outside of your poster manning time due to the judging schedule.

- **Length**: Poster finalists should be prepared to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes to explain your poster, and then respond to questions. You will be asked to stop speaking after 5 minutes and points will be deducted from your score (see scoring rubric) if you have not completed your comments on time.
- **Practicing**: We strongly encourage you to try out your presentation on colleagues and friends before presenting to the Award Judges.

**Closing Awards Ceremony**

Winners will be announced at the AAA Closing Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, April 5 at 7:00 pm. If you signed up to attend the awards ceremony, you will need to pick up your ticket in person at the Anatomy Lounge in the convention center.

**Travel Award**

Travel award checks can be picked up in the Anatomy Lounge after you have presented your poster or oral presentation. For poster presentations, checks can be picked up after 4pm and for oral presentations it can be picked up after your session.

**Student/Postdoc Poster & Oral Presentation Scoring Rubric**

Award Judges will use the following criteria in judging poster and oral presentations: (50 points max.)

1. **Timing, poise, and clarity of presentation (10 points)**: 5 points for timing; no points are given if over allotted time (orals = 12 min., posters = 5 min.; excluding questions). 5 points for clarity and poise of presentation; the work was explained clearly, at the appropriate level, and in a style that was engaging to the audience.

2. **Aesthetics and clarity of display (10 points)**: The poster or oral presentation followed a logical order, was attractive/appealing, and comprehensive and complete.

3. **Scientific Merit (20 points)**:
   - **Introduction (5 points)**: The research question/hypothesis/objective/purpose was clearly stated. The scope and indication of study need were presented.
   - **Methods (5 points)**: The approach/method(s) for answering the research question was stated clearly and was appropriate for the study. The methods were sufficiently described to understand the study protocol.
   - **Results/Conclusion (5 points)**: The results were clearly stated and placed in their appropriate context. The principal conclusions were concisely stated and supported by study’s findings. For descriptive works (e.g., case studies), the presenter discussed the feasibility, uniqueness, and/or limitations of the work and how the project could be viable for future research.
• Communication/Significance (5 points): The author effectively communicated the significance of the results and indicated the implications of the findings.

4. **Breadth of Scientific Knowledge (10 points):** The author had overall content knowledge and the ability to answer questions (i.e., can speaker think critically about and discuss the topic beyond the presented work).