

2026 Central New Mexico
STEM Research Challenge



**SENIOR DIVISION
GRAND AWARD WINNERS
& ISEF FINALISTS**

The following students have been named 2026 International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) finalists and are awarded an all-expense paid trip to Phoenix, AZ to compete in May, 2026. All finalists will also receive a \$250 cash award courtesy of Nusenda Credit Union.

Aanya Asoori ~ La Cueva High School

Project #: SMED-H-2011

Project Title: *RetinaVision: AI Powered Detection of Retinitis Pigmentosa and Other Retinal Diseases from Fundus Images*

Euiryeon Kim ~ La Cueva High School

Project #: SROBO-2406

Project Title: *In Silico Analysis for Screening Autism and Assessing Symptom Severity Using Retinal Photographs*

Rachel Taylor ~ Rio Rancho Cyber Academy

Project #: SMICRO-2106

Project Title: *A Fun Time With A Fungi: Simulation Neuronal Galvanotropism on Ustilago maydis Mycelium to Manipulate Cell Growth, Direction, and Cell Development and Its Applications to Nerve Regeneration*

Ahana Koushik ~ Albuquerque Academy

Project #: SCHEM-1405

Project Title: *Development of a Rapid, Portable Lateral Flow Assay for the Detection of Microplastic-drug Interactions*
