

A `Gold Medal' winner in Science from Nicolet Middle School!

By Felicia Adkins, Director of Educational services, Banning Unified School District

RIVERSIDE — Eighth grader Lily Yang, a cross-country runner at Nicolet Middle School, won a Gold Medal in the Junior Division for a project on electrolytes at the Riverside County Science and Engineering Fair.

Yang hypothesized that orange juice would have the most electrolytes to replenish her body as a runner. But her project revealed that coconut water produces more electrolytes than orange juice, and so Yang has added it to her go-to-drink for soccer season.

Yang was among 22 students who received Gold Medals in the Junior Division of the competition, which was sponsored by the Riverside County Office of Education. The judges evaluated projects from nearly 20 categories that ranged from biochemistry to behavioral and social sciences to robotics. The winners of the Junior Division will now compete at the California State Science and Engineering Fair scheduled for April 29-30 at the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

Yang joined nearly 500 students from public, charter, and private schools who competed in the April 2-3 competition at the Riverside Convention Center. In all, judges reviewed more than 400 student projects.

Gold Medal Winner — Eighth grader Lily Yang of Nicolet Middle School in Banning was one of 22 Gold Medal winners in the Junior Division of the Riverside County Science and Engineering Fair. She will now represent the Banning Unified School District at the upcoming California State Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles. Photo courtesy of the Riverside County Office of Education

