

Neuroscience Research Finalist

3/2/17



Shaminta Hamidian, a senior at South High School, was selected as a Finalist in the 2017 Neuroscience Research Prize competition. The title of Shaminta's project is: "Structural and Functional Connectivity of the Human Hand Motor Area Using Diffusion Tensor Imaging and Resting State Functional MRI." Her faculty advisor, Dr. Carol Hersh, provided this project summary: Recent technological advances have enabled exploration of the brain's functional and anatomical properties. MRI techniques have contributed to our understanding of the brain by allowing noninvasive exploration. In this study, Shaminta developed a method to use specific MRI techniques to localize regions of the brain involved in particular functions. A specific location for the area responsible for controlling hand function was identified. Shaminta's research report was among the 15 best from a large number of entries submitted by students nationally. All written reports were carefully reviewed by members of the American Academy of Neurology and only the top 15 entries, designated Finalists, were selected for additional reviews. The Neuroscience Research Prize is sponsored by the American Academy of Neurology and the Child Neurology Society.