



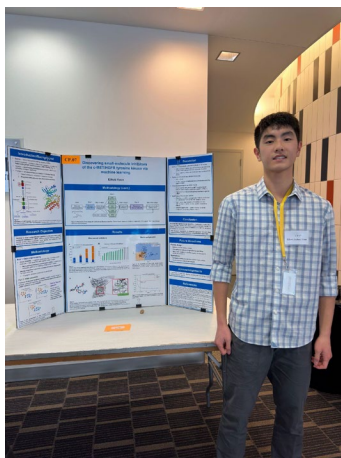
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News Release

Tenafly High School Student Selected to Attend Prestigious Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair

*Elliott Yoon Wins 1st Place Award for Cancer Cell Project
Secures Spot at May 2023 International Event in Dallas, Texas*

Tenafly, NJ – May 10, 2023 – Elliott J. Yoon, Tenafly High School junior, has been selected to represent his school and Terra North Jersey STEM Fair (TNJSF) at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) Competition in Dallas, Texas beginning May 14, 2023. His first place award at TNJSF - in the category of Computational Pharmacology - earned him this prestigious opportunity to compete with other Regeneron ISEF finalists for nearly \$8 million in awards, prizes and scholarships. His Science Research teacher, Ms. Aparna Subramaniam, who won TNJSF's Nokia Teacher Trip Award, will be attending as well.



About Elliott Yoon's Award-winning Cancer Research Project:

Discovering Small Molecule Inhibitors of the c-MET/HGFR Tyrosine Kinase via Machine Learning - can be summarized in simpler terms in Elliott's own words:

"c-MET is a receptor that sits on the outside of our cells. When it becomes activated, it tells our cells to grow and divide rapidly, among other things. Normally, most cells don't have the c-MET receptor; but when the gene controlling it becomes mutated, those cells can become activated, divide rapidly, and then become cancer-causing tumors. My research was based on using powerful computer models - Machine Learning (AI) Models - and I trained them to identify new molecules that can bind to the receptor, before it becomes activated, and prevent it from developing into a tumor."

Elliott, who is 16, resides in Tenafly with his family. They moved from New York City when he was 5 years old. He credits his father and Ms. Subramaniam for his interest in science and in

biotech, specifically. But it was his recent summer internship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York that sparked his interest in c-MET and cancer research. Having done some of his own research on machine learning models, he wanted to bring the two together and test a theory that could help aid in the effort to find a cure for cancer.

Ms. Subramaniam noted that after Regeneron ISEF, she will be coordinating a meeting with a data scientist who is an AI expert to validate Elliott's computational model and then will have him meet with someone in the clinical setting. Elliott has not decided what specific college or career he wants to pursue, but his award-winning project using Machine Learning Models gives hope for the future of cancer research.

"Winning this award and attending this competition is a big honor and validation for my hard work. I'm looking forward to learning from all of the other attendees and networking with the professionals in the field while showcasing my research," commented Elliott Yoon. He added, "Hopefully, I can win another award!"

Regeneron ISEF 2023, the world's largest pre-college STEM competition, will take place from May 14-19 in Dallas, Texas, at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center. For more information, visit: <https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/>

For more information on Tenafly Public Schools, visit <https://www.tenaflyschools.org>. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter (@TenaflySchools).

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