



MOMENTS OF WONDER AND CONNECTION



SOCIETY FOR SCIENCE

SCIENCE NEWS | APRIL 8, 2024

On the cover, A total solar eclipse is seen in Dallas, Texas on Monday, April 8, 2024. A total solar eclipse swept across a narrow portion of the North American continent from Mexico's Pacific coast to the Atlantic coast of Newfoundland, Canada. On this page, Science News staffers watch the eclipse from Dupont Circle in Washington, D.C., on Monday, April 8, 2024.

COVER PHOTO CREDIT: NASA/KEEGAN BARBER; THIS PAGE: EMILY CONOVER



Moments of Wonder and Connection

As we look back on 2024, we celebrate a year filled with moments of wonder and connection. With your support, Society for Science continued to create foundational opportunities for young people to engage in discovery and innovation. We published stories that deepened our understanding of the world around us and brought the inspiration of science to a broad audience. We are grateful to everyone who empowered Society for Science to create transformative experiences. Thank you!

One exciting milestone in 2024 was the acquisition of a new building, which will serve as our new headquarters and become a vibrant STEM hub in our nation's capitol. This investment in our future reflects our continued growth and our long-term commitment to advancing science journalism and STEM education and outreach.

As you look through our 2024 Annual Report, we hope you are reminded of what makes Society for Science unique:

- Our more than 100 years of science journalism through our award winning magazines—Science News and Science News Explores—captivating audiences and educating our readers about the latest scientific breakthroughs
- Our world-class STEM research competitions, fueling innovation around the globe in addition to developing the next generation of STEM talent
- Our STEM Outreach Programs, reaching millions of students across the U.S. and working to ensure that every young person has an opportunity to become a scientist or engineer

We invite you to explore our 2024 Annual Report, “Moments of Wonder and Connection,” and celebrate what we have achieved together. Please take a moment, experience the wonder, and think about the connections you have with STEM, Society for Science, and what we can do together in the future to solve the world’s most intractable problems. Email us at give@societyforscience.org with your story.

None of this would be possible without you—our partners, sponsors, supporters, educators and alumni. You share our belief that science empowers individuals and strengthens society. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey.

We also extend our deepest thanks to the Board of Trustees, for their commitment and guidance throughout the year. We are especially grateful to Mary Sue Coleman for her steadfast leadership as Trustee and Chair for 11 years and warmly welcome Kristina M. Johnson and Dave Shull to the Board. We look forward to their leadership in the years ahead.

As we look to 2025, we are energized by the possibilities—and grateful to have you with us.

Only our best,



Thomas F. Rosenbaum

Thomas F. Rosenbaum
President, Caltech
Chair, Board of Trustees
Society for Science
STS 1973



Maya Ajmera

Maya Ajmera
President & CEO, Society for Science
Executive Publisher, Science News
STS 1985

SOCIETY TOP MOMENTS OF 2024

Society for Science is excited to highlight some of our favorite milestones from 2024 — from celebrating the next generation of STEM innovators to covering the Great American Eclipse to empowering educators nationwide. We're proud to celebrate a year of remarkable achievements and impact!



IDENTIFYING TOMORROW'S STEM LEADERS

Achyuta Rajaram, 17, of Exeter, N.H., won first place in the Regeneron Science Talent Search for developing an automatic method to discover which parts of a computer model are involved in decision-making.



PURCHASING A NEW HOME FOR THE SOCIETY

The Society purchased a new headquarters in Washington, D.C., on Massachusetts Ave., NW, to position the organization for even more growth in the future.



CONNECTING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION
NASA Astronaut Jeanette Epps took time away from her space mission to speak virtually with attendees at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair.

REWARDING STUDENT SCIENTISTS ON AN INTERNATIONAL STAGE
Grace Sun, 16, of Lexington, Ky., won the \$75,000 George D. Yancopoulos Innovator Award, the top prize at the Regeneron ISEF, for her work on improving organic electrochemical transistors for future medical devices.

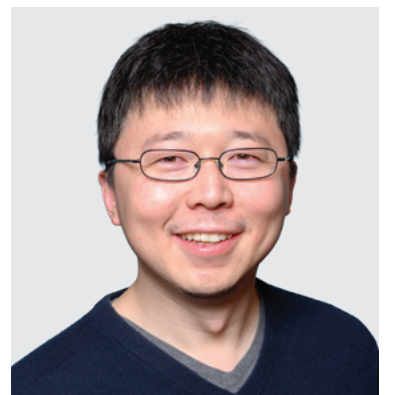


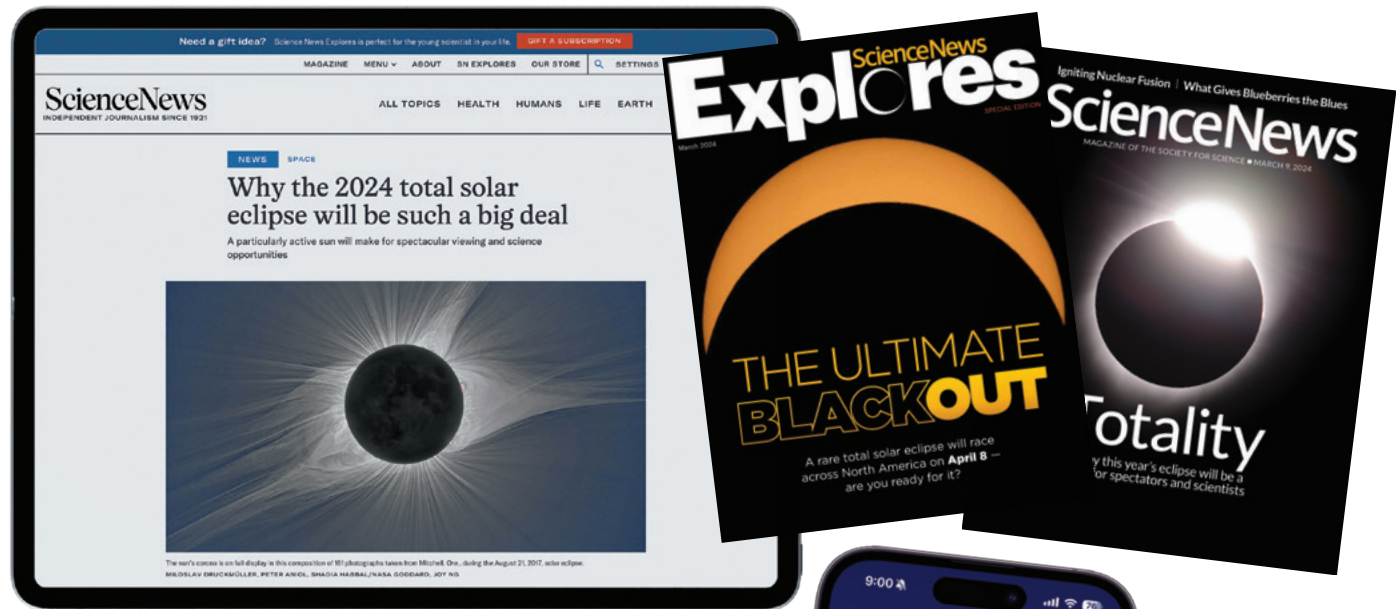
NURTURING MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENTISTS

Tina Jin, 13, from San Jose, Calif., won the \$25,000 top award in the Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge for her water filtration system using animal bone waste as well as her leadership, collaboration and critical thinking skills.

NAMING A NEW BOARD CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Society named Caltech President Thomas F. Rosenbaum as Board Chair and Feng Zhang, James and Patricia Poitras Professor of Neuroscience at MIT, as Vice Chair — both alumni of the Society's STEM research competitions.





EARNING PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS

The Science News special project “Electricity Saved My Brain” was honored twice by the prestigious Online News Association Awards in the Features category and the Sports, Health and Wellness category for Small/Medium Newsrooms.

REPORTING THE GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE

Science News, Science News Explores and Science News Learning covered the eclipse from safe viewing tips to its scientific significance and citizen science efforts.



SCIENTISTS IN THE CLASSROOM

Science News Learning has teamed up with Regeneron to launch a pilot program to bring Regeneron’s professional scientists and engineers to SN Learning classrooms. By meeting and learning from Regeneron employees, the program seeks to provide students with an opportunity to learn from real-life scientists and engineers.

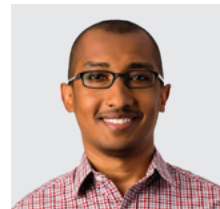


CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF THE ADVOCATE PROGRAM

The Society named 100 educators to its Advocate Program, which seeks to engage more students in STEM competitions.

WELCOMING NEW TRUSTEES

Kristina M. Johnson, CEO of Johnson Energy Holdings, LLC, and Dave Shull, President of HP Solutions, joined the Society’s Board of Trustees. Johnson is an ISEF alumna and Shull is an alumnus of the Science Talent Search.



NLC ADDS NEW MEMBERS

Lester Mackey (STS 2003; ISEF 2003), Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research, and Naomi Shah (STS 2013; ISEF 2010–2013; DCYSC 2007) founder and CEO of Meet Cute, joined the Society’s National Leadership Council, composed of alumni of its STEM research competitions.



SUPPORTING EDUCATORS IN THEIR CLASSROOMS

The Society awarded \$110,000 to 41 educators through its STEM Research Grants program, supporting hands-on science education in middle and high schools.



PROMOTING STEM OPPORTUNITIES

Through the STEM Action Grants program, the Society awarded \$320,500 to 66 impactful nonprofit organizations that will increase participation in STEM for all communities.



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The Moon's shadow, or umbra, is pictured covering portions of the Canadian provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick and the American state of Maine in this photograph from the International Space Station as it soared into the solar eclipse from 261 miles above.
NASA/JOHNSON

GROWTH IN 2024

Thanks to the support and generosity of our philanthropic partners, donors, members, volunteers, alumni, and educators, Society for Science is in a strong financial position.

In 2024, 84 cents of every dollar donated to Society for Science supported our programmatic work to advance our mission. Our three strategic program areas are science journalism, world-class competitions for middle and high school students, and STEM outreach.

- Science competitions and in-person activities account for 52% of program spending.
- Our outreach programming, which seeks to expand access to STEM opportunities, together with our work aimed at building our alumni community, accounted for 14% of program spending.
- Science News Media Group's work accounted for 34% of program spending.

The remaining 16 cents are allocated to general and administrative costs (8 cents) and fundraising (8 cents) of every expense dollar.

The overall balance sheet of Society for Science continues to be healthy, with total net assets of \$152 million,

composed of unrestricted net assets of \$36 million and restricted net assets of \$116 million.

The Society carries no long-term financing and owns its office real estate. As a result, unrestricted current assets exceed current liabilities by \$32 million, resulting in a 4.28 ratio of current assets to current liabilities. The Society's unrestricted investment balance is entirely liquid and accounts for 66% of current assets composed of cash, investments, prepaid expenses, and the amount of grants receivable in the next year.

The investment portfolio holdings are well diversified and professionally managed in order to take advantage of market growth while minimizing risk of loss.

Restricted assets make up the largest asset class and are mostly grants receivable for future funding commitments from Regeneron and other funders for science competitions and other program work, with all receivables to be provided within the next five years.

Society for Science is committed to responsibly managing our financial resources. Thank you to all of our stakeholders for trusting us to steward your contributions to the greatest need of our programs.

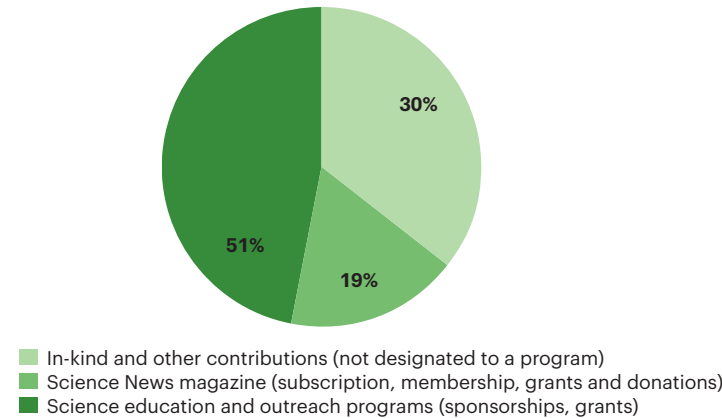
Current Year Operating Revenue and Expense

	2024	2023
Revenue		
Science News magazine (subscription, membership, grants and donations)	\$ 9,582,533	\$ 9,700,949
Science education and outreach programs (sponsorships, grants)	25,341,120	28,178,304
In-kind and other revenue	14,770,383	2,142,737
Total operating revenue	\$ 49,694,036	\$ 40,021,990
Expense		
Program services	\$ 34,942,635	33,512,230
General and management	3,378,223	2,880,542
Fundraising	3,227,433	3,092,338
Total operating expense	\$ 41,548,291	\$ 39,485,110

Non Operating Activities and Pledges

	2024	2023
Non Operating Activity		
Investment income (Loss)	\$ 2,759,527	\$ \$3,397,360
Change in post-retirement benefit liability	287,000	(137,000)
Pledges and Contributions Designated for Future Years		
Pledges and contributions	\$ 75,297,659	\$ 41,563,155
Prior years' pledges used in current year	(34,543,305)	(18,419,163)
Non Operating Activity	\$ 43,800,881	\$ 26,404,352
Change in Net Assets		
Net assets at the beginning of the year	100,124,236	73,485,720
Net assets at the end of the year	152,035,116	100,124,236

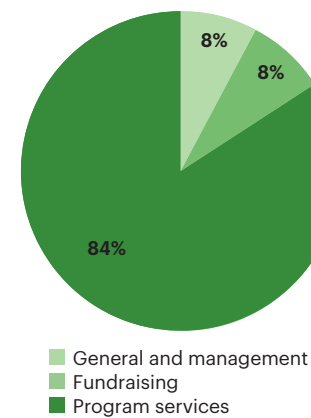
FY 2024 Operating Revenue



Balance Sheet

	2024	2023
Assets		
Cash, short-term receivables & prepaids	\$ 14,381,488	\$ 9,580,910
Investments	31,256,306	41,728,642
Grants receivable	105,161,496	60,569,206
Property and equipment	14,497,854	1,357,392
Other Assets	31,743	1,418,885
Total Assets	\$ 165,328,887	\$ 114,655,035
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 2,206,454	\$ 2,337,646
Awards payable	5,272,734	5,289,539
Deferred revenue	4,165,583	4,315,936
Post-retirement benefit liability	1,649,000	1,943,000
Other liabilities	-	644,678
Total Liabilities	\$ 13,293,771	\$ 14,530,799
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 36,001,301	\$ 24,844,775
With Donor Restrictions	116,033,815	75,279,461
Total Net Assets	152,035,116	100,124,236
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 165,328,887	\$ 114,655,035

FY 2024 Operating Expense



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