

**PREPARING TO APPLY FOR THE  
2021 SIMON PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS FOR GIRLS**

**Online application forms for the Prize will be available beginning February 22, 2021 but you can begin preparing to fill out your form now. Below is some information for you to think about.**

**You will be REQUIRED to have the following items on your application.**

1. The name of your current math teacher. (You must have a recommendation from them so you can let them know that you intend to apply.)
2. A narrative, not to exceed 900 characters, on why you are interested in mathematics and how receiving this prize would help you attain your academic and career goals. (You can begin gathering your thoughts and making some notes.)

**You will NOT BE REQUIRED to include the items listed below. However, you MAY WANT TO INCLUDE them on your application.**

1. Names of as many as two teachers in addition to your current math teacher who you have asked to submit a recommendation for you. (You can let the teacher(s) know that you will be asking for a recommendation.)
2. As many as three school or community extracurricular activities you have participated in during grades 5 – 7 that are/were relevant to mathematics and/or problem solving. \* You will be expected to provide the
  - a. Name of the activity.
  - b. Name of the sponsor.
  - c. Grade(s) during which you participated.
  - d. Reasons why you think your participation shows your interest and ability in mathematics.
    - i. If you would like for something to be viewed online, all necessary steps for accessing it should be included.
3. As many as three examples of exemplary performance on a class project. \* You will be expected to provide the
  - a. Name of the project.
  - b. Subject, grade level and teacher when project was done and whether it was required or optional.
  - c. Concise description of the project.
    - i. If you would like for something to be viewed online, all necessary steps for accessing it should be included.
  - d. Reasons why you think the project shows your interest and ability in mathematics.

**\*See Page 2 for Examples of Extracurricular Activities and Class Projects**

**Deadline for submitting online application forms will be April 1, 2021.**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, SEND AN EMAIL TO [SimonPrize@conwayschools.net](mailto:SimonPrize@conwayschools.net)

## Examples of Extracurricular Activities and Class Projects

You are not restricted to this list. These are only some examples.

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Quiz Bowl

Stock Market Game

Chess Club

Duke Talent Search

ACT Prep classes

Technology Club

Athletic Team

Band

Choir

Music, Drama, Dance, Athletics, Summer Camp, etc. outside of school

### PROJECTS

Performance tasks in mathematics

Performance tasks in science

Statistics applications in social studies Example: election predictions using polling/sampling

Statistics applications in athletics Example: Win/loss record on home vs. away games or other factors

Teacher assigned projects in any subject

**Short book report** You can choose one of the books from the list below and read it anytime. All the books are in the SMS library and some are also available at the Faulkner County Library. You will need to be able to tell us the following things when you write about the book in your Prize application. You will want to make notes as you read so you will have your information at hand when you apply.

1. Title of book
2. Author
3. When you read the book and how many pages you read (you may only want to read parts of books that have several biographies, science experiments, etc.)
4. In general, what was the book about
5. An example of something you learned from the book and how it may affect your plans for the future

Books marked with an \* are also available from the Faulkner County Library.

Code Girls: The True Story of the American Women Who Secretly Broke Codes in World War II (Young Readers Edition) by Liza Mundy (Ages 10-14)

Dreaming in Code: Ada Byron Lovelace, Computer Pioneer by Emily Arnold McCully (Grades 5-8)

Electronics for Kids by Oyvind Nydal Dahl (Grades 5 and 6)

Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women by Catherine Thimmesh (Grades 4-8)

Hidden Figures (Young Readers' Edition) by Margot Lee Shetterly (Grades 6-9)

Magnificent Minds: 16 Pioneering Women in Science and Medicine by Pendred E. Noyce (Ages 12 and up)

One Minute Mysteries series by Eric and Natalie Yoder 65 Short Mysteries You Solve With Science (Grades 4-9)

65 Short Mysteries You Solve With Math (Grades 5-9)

65 More Short Mysteries You Solve With Science (Grades 3-7)

Power in Numbers: The Rebel Women of Mathematics by Talithia Williams (Ages 12 and up)

\*Radioactive! How Irene Curie and Lise Meitner Revolutionized Science and Changed the World by Winifred Conkling (Grades 7-8)

\*The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian's Art Changed Science by Joyce Sidman (Grades 5-8)

Why is Milk White? And 200 Other Curious Chemistry Questions by Alexa Coelho and Simon Quellen Field (Ages 9 and up)

\*Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World by Rachel Ignotofsky (Grades 6 and up)

\*Women of Steel and Stone by Anna M. Lewis (Ages 12 and up)