

## Poster Presentation

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### *The International Year of Crystallography in the Americas*

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The American Crystallographic Association has focused its celebration of IYCr principally on outreach to spread the message of the importance of crystallography in our daily lives and to attract young people into science. We have formed an Ad Hoc Task Force, representing 13 geographical regions of 100-200 members each to develop our goals, to coordinate events and to enable specific activities. Key to our activities are a website which offers an attractive link for young scientists, projects and teaching tools for schools, biographies of important crystallographers, an adopt a crystallographer link, and video and crystal growing contests. We have continued to send scientists to Latin America for training workshops and assist Latin Americans in attending the ACA meetings. In order to create a lasting legacy for the International year, we have worked closely with national organizations such as in the US the National Science Teachers Association, the American Chemical Society, the American Institute of Physics, as well as student outreach groups like the Society for Physics Students. Forging an ongoing relationship with these organizations will aid our continuing outreach. Similar organizational contacts have been made in Canada and in Latin America. Working with national organizations can also help to influence the political climate for science funding.

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