Fulton County Schools had three projects represented at the 70th annual Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Phoenix, Arizona the week of May 12-17. Divya Nori and Shreya Ramesh of Milton HS and Tianyu Dong of Northview HS competed alongside 1,842 students from 80 countries, regions and territories in ISEF’s largest fair to date. ISEF is the largest pre-college science competition in the world.

*Divya Nori* from Milton High School won a special award from the American Psychological Association (APA) for $1500. She also placed 4th in her category of Behavioral and Social Sciences winning $500.

*Shreya Ramesh* also from Milton High School won a special award from the APA for $1000 and placed 3rd in her category of Behavioral and Social Sciences winning $1000.

*Tianyu Dong* from Northview High School placed 3rd in her category of Chemistry winning $1000.

ISEF was so much more than a competition. It was an opportunity to spend a week with like-minded students, entrepreneurs, and scholars. Highlights include:

- Meeting scientists and engineers who are experts in their field of study
- Attending an opening ceremony which included a speech from Feng Zhang, Ph.D., a molecular biologist. He discussed the power of identifying the needs of your daily environment and researching solutions. Currently, his research is focused on light therapy for the brain to cure depression.
- Hearing panel discussions of former Intel ISEF participants currently on the cutting edge of discoveries and entrepreneurship
- Hearing a panel of Nobel Laureates share their backgrounds and words of wisdom such as “failures are a new opportunity for discovery and growth”, and “have fun with what you are doing”

It was a once in a lifetime experience for our STEM students in Fulton County Schools. All three projects were funded by the Fulton Education Foundation and we are grateful for their support of our students!