The National TORCH Committee will be hosting an Informal Science & Engineering Fair for the third year at Annual Convention in Pittsburgh, PA in March 2012. The theme of this fair is “Engineer Your Way Around the World With NSBE.” An Informal Science and Engineering Fair is a “reverse” science fair; instead of the traditional science fair where students present their discoveries, we as the experts in the field, will present our knowledge and demonstrations to youth to encourage them to consider entering a STEM field. This event will present a mixture of booths with demonstrations and interactive activities for students to walk through in groups. The theme will show how various regions of the world use engineering concepts, and the purpose is to show how these concepts are applied.

As a grassroots organization, we look to our chapters as a source of creativity and energy. We are looking to chapters to generate creative activities to engage youth during this open to the public event. Selected chapters will be funded to implement the activity at a chapter event in addition to hosting that activity at the Informal Science & Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh. Help us lead Pittsburgh’s youth in engineering their way around the world!

ISE Activity Design Challenge

The objectives of the ISE activity design challenge are to increase variety of activities for Convention ISE Fair, support chapter TORCH programming, link chapter level and national programming, and engage membership in Convention preparation.

ISE Activity Design Timeline:

11/20/2011  Deadline for submission
12/04/2011  Notification of funding allocations to chapter

ISE Activity Design Submission Requirements:

- Activity must be STEM-related
- Activity is preferred to have an international theme. Your proposal description should explain how the activity is related to the theme and how you will convey that to youth at convention.
- Perishable items are not permitted in activities at Convention
- Activity duration should be a maximum of 1 hour, ideally students should be able to complete the activity within 10-15 minutes, but there may be a ‘come back to see the results portion.’
- Chapter submission must be in alignment with the general TORCH Funding request guidelines and submitted on IMPak.
ISE Activity Design Example

Create a water filter
http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/sci/waterfilterpartii.html

96.5% of earth’s water resources are seawater and not drinkable without further processing. Countries all around the world suffer from a scarcity of clean, drinkable water. Show kids how they can help in this growing effort by hosting this and other international-based activities.

Other resources can be found at the various sites listed below:

eGFI Program
http://teachers.egfi-k12.org/category/activities/

ZOOM
http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/

The funding information and submission links can be found on this page, under TORCH Incentives:
http://www.nsbe.org/Programs/NSBE-Programs/T-O-R-C-H-.aspx