

Palmetto's Symbiants to Represent Florida in the North American Envirothon

Miami Palmetto's Envirothon team, the Symbiants, won first place in the state's Envirothon competition, held April 27 in Hillsborough River State Park. The Symbiants, comprised of Zoe Cosner, David Silverman, Richard Li, Allen Liu, and Orko Sarkar, will now represent Florida in the 2013 North American Envirothon, to be held August 4-9 on the campus of Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. The team is coached by Pam Shlachtman. The trip will be funded entirely by the Science Competitors Club, using winnings from the Lexus EcoChallenge and the Go Bananas! competition.

Through problem-solving activities the Envirothon tests high school teams on their knowledge of four different natural resource areas: soils, aquatics, forestry, wildlife, and one additional current environmental issue. This year's current issue is "Sustainable Rangeland Management: Achieving a balance between Traditional Agricultural Uses with non-Agricultural Uses on Montana Rangelands."

This will not be Palmetto's first trip to the North American Envirothon, as Ms. Shlachtman's Palmetto team won top honors in the 2004 competition.