

MATES in Action



**“Critical Thinking: Not Just for Today, But for
The Next Generation”**

Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Foundation



Will take place on an assigned day with the Biology Instructors

All participants will leave from MATES right after homeroom

Students can be picked up at 3 PM from the OCVTS Toms River Center or 3:30 PM at MATES

Students will be prepped in advance

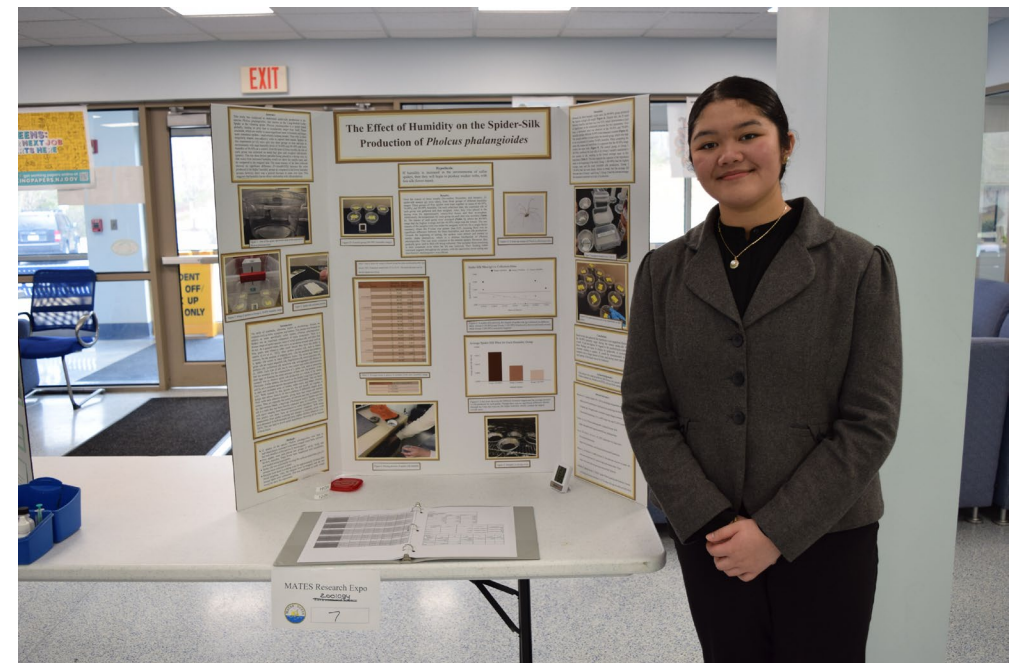
“This may be overwhelming. Getting adjusted to MATES, balancing my extracurricular activities, and now a long-term project!”

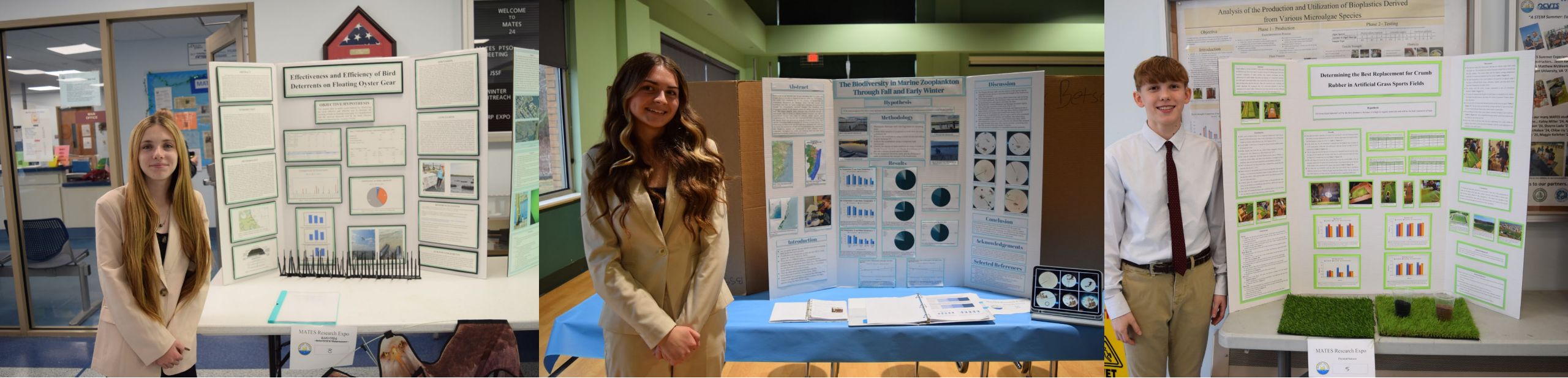
- Research Assistance and Development (RAD) is here to help out!
 - Students (Seniors and Juniors) are here to help with project development.
 - They have been meeting this summer and have access to the FRP Classroom.
 - This project will be incorporated into your Biology Classes with pieces of the project as assignments in the class (instructors are there to help you!)

matesocvts.org

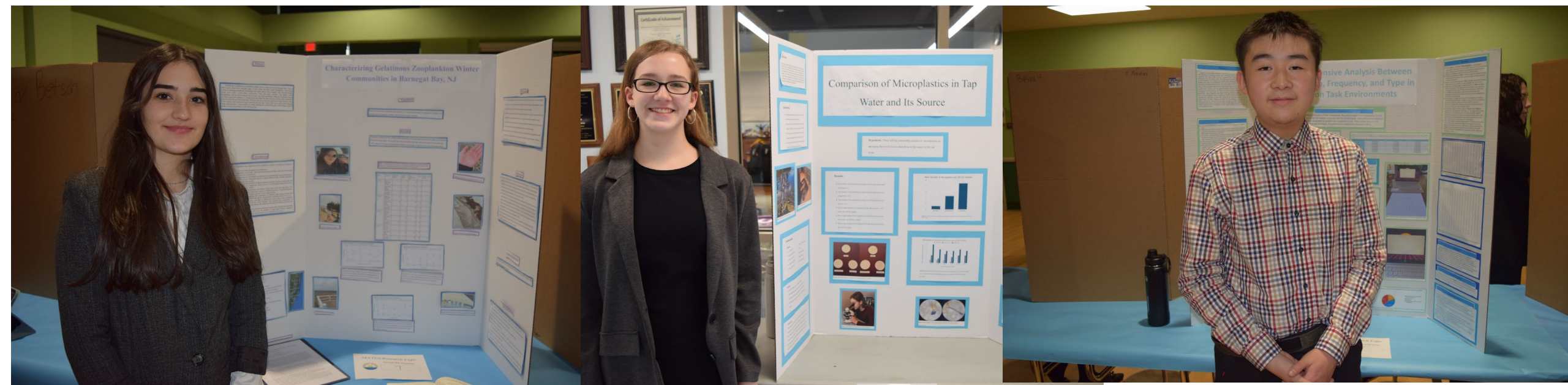


MATES Research Expo 2024





First Year Research Project 2023- 2024



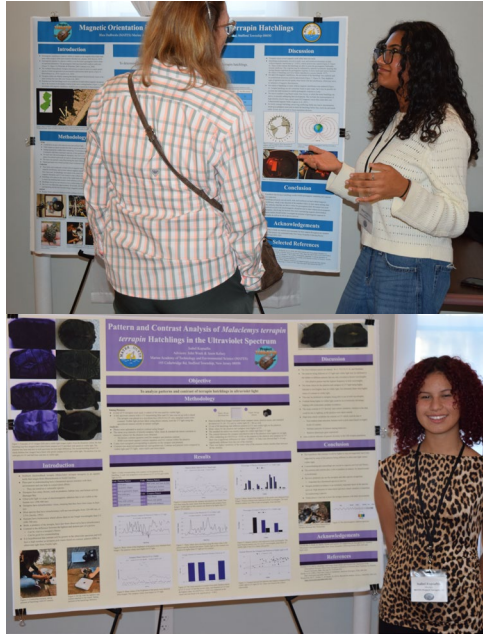
Opportunities Ahead...

- Students can make a difference!
- Numerous MATES students were published and/or were authors on technical reports.
- MATES students have the opportunities, **but they need to take advantage of such opportunities.**



The Pathways







Delaware Valley Science Fair



MATES Community Research Initiatives

“Local Action, Yet Far Reaching”



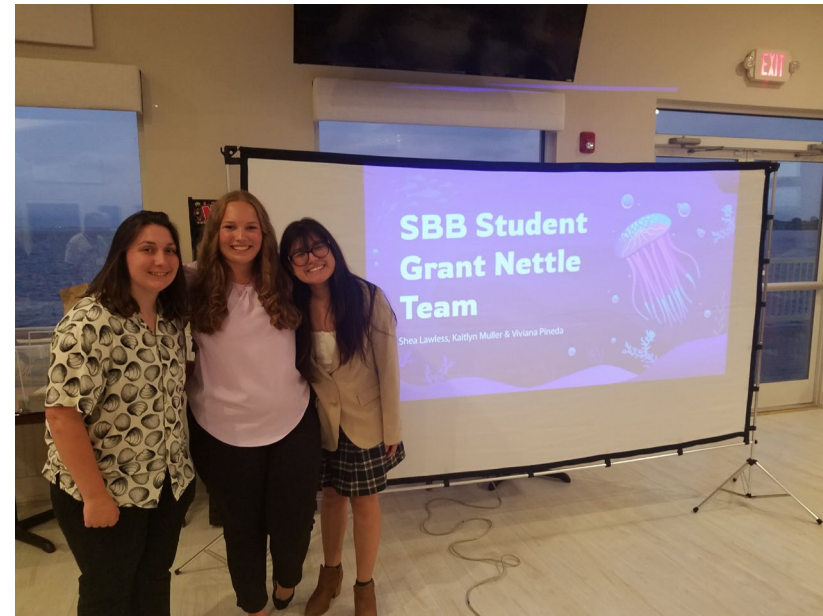
Projects with...

- NJDEP (Barnegat Bay Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Program and Lab Certification Since 2011



MATES Bay Nettle Team (**Coming Back 2026/27**)

- Project that is helping to reduce jellyfish in Barnegat Bay with a three year focus



Project Terrapin

- Research, Conservation and Education Initiative
- Numerous Divisions and Research Opportunities
- Recognized Statewide and Nationally
- Multiple Partnerships...



2026 Summer Internship



Terrapin Tuesdays & LBI !

Over 600 people in attendance again this year!



TERRAPIN
NESTING PROJECT



American Fisheries Society Mid-Atlantic Chapter

- First High School Sub-Unit of the American Fisheries Society
- Research Tied into past projects with NOAA and CRABB were part of the sub-unit contribution...



Conference in Atlantic City this November!

Recovering Crab Pots (We're Back!)





Bycatch Reduction Device Initiative (BRDs)





Using BRDs



Photo by Melanie Thorn

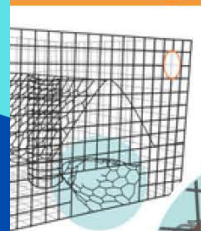
has little effect on crab catch.

significantly reduces bycatch.

significantly reduces terrapin mortality.

significantly preserves marine species.

Attaching a BRD



© 2009 Kelly
Marine Aquarium.



BRDs into all funnels (openings) on commercial-style crab pots. The placement of the BRD inside the funnel is the crabber's responsibility. Whether it is deep inside the pot's funnel or towards the outside. Secure with a zip tie on each corner.

How Can You Help?

- Always use BRDs.
- Follow state regulations regarding licenses, usages, and crabbing methods.
- Check pots regularly and remove promptly.
- Rig your pots properly. Use a sinkable line, commercial float, and biodegradable escape panel.
- Tell friends, family, and neighbors about BRDs and their importance for conservation.
- Sign our pledge at www.brd-zone.net.



This brochure was made possible by our partners. Funding provided by the Marine Debris Foundation. Visit www.brd-zone.net for more information.



Project Terrapin



large threat to turtle populations. BRDs are used to prevent

large terrapins from entering & drowning.



Check out www.brd-zone.net for more info

HOW TO REDUCE BYCATCH

RESPONSIBLE CRABBING

IF CATCHING BLUE CRABS USING A COMMERCIAL-STYLE CRAB POT, PLEASE USE A SINKABLE LINE, PROPER FLOAT AND ESCAPE PANEL.

BYCATCH REDUCTION DEVICES (BRDS)

USE BRDS IN THE FUNNELS OF CRAB POTS TO REDUCE BYCATCH AND PREVENT MASS MORTALITIES IF THE CRAB POT BECOMES LOST.

FISH RESPONSIBLY

FOLLOW REGULATIONS FOR CAPTURE LIMITS, SIZES, AND LEGAL SEASONS FOR TARGETED SPECIES.

BE THE DIFFERENCE

MARINE DEBRIS SUCH AS CRAB POTS CAN NEGATIVELY AFFECT SPECIES AND ALTER THE NECESSARY BALANCE TO SUSTAIN HEALTHY HABITATS. PROPERLY RIG YOUR TRAPS TO LOWER THE CHANCE OF TRAP LOSS!

[WWW.BRD-ZONE.COM](http://www.brd-zone.com)