

**ACS Local Section Annual Report Part IV
ChemLuminary Award Nominations**

Local Section:Chicago

➤ **Award Category: Most Innovative New Activity or Program in a Local Section**

(Select a category from the list and complete a separate form for each entry)

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Description of Activity/Program: Please provide a synopsis of the activity/program and **state clearly, in 1,000 words or less, why the activity/program merits consideration** for this particular award. Only activities/programs that were held in 2005 are eligible for consideration. You may wish to include the following in your description: Name of Activity/Program; Date Conducted; Site/Location; Number of Participants. Please refer to the specific guidelines for each award. **Descriptions are limited to 1,000 words or less.**

City of Chicago Bud Billiken Day Parade **The Bud Billiken Day Parade is a major Chicago community event, which reaches over a million people. A float was rented for the parade and an advertisement appeared in the Chicago Defender Newspaper. About 1.5 million people lining the streets of the South Side of Chicago saw the float. During and after the parade, an interactive experiment was performed in Washington Park as part of the "After-Parade Activities." Polymeric worms were made by squeezing sodium alginate into a salt solution. A poster about polymers was also presented. ACS chemistry day stickers were handed out and moles were given to those who ask or answered questions. Over 400 people attended the booth. The event was funded in part by an Innovative Grant. The parade organizers and the public were very grateful for our participation. Many parents personally thanked us for participating and hoped we would come back next year. The children really enjoyed themselves and learned some chemistry in the process. One child**

asked: “Are we doing chemistry?” We said yes and he said it was a lot of fun. Several children came to the booth more than once. One of the volunteers for the event was an ACS Scholar. He was glad he participated and interacted very well with the children.

Please provide a 2-3 sentence abstract that describes your activity. If you are selected as a finalist, this abstract will appear in the program booklet distributed at the ChemLuminary Awards on September 12, 2006 at the Fall National Meeting in San Francisco.

The Chicago Section leveraged an ACS Innovative Grant to send a first-hand positive message about chemistry and the ACS to over a million people. This was done through participation of an ACS float in the The Bud Billiken Day Parade, which is a major Chicago community event. By virtue of a very broad parade route, this innovative program brought a positive message about chemistry to a uniquely diverse group of citizens.

Please include a photograph (digital preferred) that shows the event/activity in action. Photos from winning local sections will be displayed as part of the ChemLuminary Awards AV production.



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