Award Winners

- **Abstract & Presentation Awards**: Student abstracts, in correlation with their poster presentations, were judged on various merits including topic prominence, presentation objectives, purpose, practice impact, academic impact, originality, tone and overall.

**Masters Level**
- First Place: Ronaldo Chavez, PHAP
  - *Health Insurance for All Children in Minnesota: Policy Analysis*
- Second Place: Kristina DeMuth, Nutrition
  - *Can Moringa Oleifera Improve the Iron Status of Ugandan Children?*
- Third Place: Elizabeth Polter, Epidemiology
  - *The Association Between Serum and Dietary Magnesium and Colorectal Cancer in the ARIC Study*
- Honorable Mention: Barsha Chitrakar, Environmental Health
  - *Assessment of Hospital Room Cleaning After Patient Discharge by Use of a Fluorescent Marker*

**PhD Level**
- First Place: Jeffrey Boatman, Biostatistics
  - *Estimating the Causal Effect of Solid Organ Transplantation Treatment Regimes on Survival*
- Second Place: Caroline Groth, Biostatistics
  - *Bayesian Models for Predicting Exposure in Multiple Exposure Groups*
- Third Place: Nicholas Roetker, Epidemiology
  - *A Prospective Study of the Association of DNA Methylation Age with Type 2 Diabetes: the ARIC Study*
- Honorable Mention: Patrick Schnell, Biostatistics
  - *A Bayesian Credible Subgroups Approach to Identifying Patient Groups with Positive Treatment Effect*
✦ **People’s Choice Award**: Given to the projects that were voted as audience favorites.

**Masters Level**
1. Michelle Gin, Maternal & Child Health  
   *Why Youth Aren’t Having Sex: Reasons for Abstinence in High School Students*
2. Bette Dougherty, PHAP  
   *Minnesota Statewide Health Improvement Program and Coalition History and Legislative Analysis*

**PhD Level**
1. Cynthia Basu, Biostatistics  
   *Hierarchical Bayesian Models for the Pharmacokinetics & Pharmacodynamics of Lorenzo’s Oil*
2. Navneet Kaur Baidwan, Environmental Health  
   *Exploring the Phenomena of Open Solid Waste Burning in Indian Cities*

**Research Day Alumni Awards**: Sponsored by the SPH Alumni Society, School of Public Health alumni served as reviewers and judges for the following awards:

✦ **Most Innovative Award**: Given to the project scopes that were most innovative in looking at emerging issues or problems new to public health

**Masters Level**
- Ben Kofroed, PHAP  
  *Public Health Impacts of Paid Parental Leave: A Literature Review*
- Zachary Morris, PHAP  
  *Reducing the Negative Health Consequences of Homelessness Among LGBTQ Youth: A Policy Analysis*

**PhD Level**
- Patrick Schnell, Biostatistics  
  *A Bayesian Credible Subgroups Approach to Identifying Patient Groups with Positive Treatment Effect*
- Hong Zhao, Biostatistics  
  *Hierarchical Bayesian Approaches for Detecting Inconsistency in Network Meta-Analysis*
*Best Collaborative Project Award:* Given to the projects focused on interdisciplinary research or interdisciplinary impact

**Masters Level**
- Brian Ambuel, PHAP
  *Early Education in Minnesota: Expanding Coverage, Ensuring Quality, Containing Cost*
- Megan Thompson, PHAP
  *How an Organization’s Culture of Health Impacts the Effectiveness of Worksite Wellness Programs*

**PhD Level**
- Catherine Graeve, Environmental Health
  *Necessary Drugs, Unnecessary Consequences: an Intervention to Protect Healthcare Workers*
- Rachel Ogilvie, Epidemiology
  *Objectively Measured Sleep Duration and Measures of Adiposity: The Multi-Ethnic Study of Atheroscle*

*Community Impact Award:* Given to the projects whose research has an opportunity to make a true impact in the community at large

**Masters Level**
- Abdirahman Hussein & Uzoma Abakporo, PHAP
  *Knowledge, Beliefs and Attitudes of Somali Men on the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine and Cervical Cancer Screening (CCS)*
- Rebecca Schultz, PHAP
  *Assessing the Landscape of Electronic Health Information Exchange for Local Public Health in MN*

**PhD Level**
- Maha Khandker, Epidemiology
  *Rumination About Early-Life Traumatic Events and Vulvodynia Onset*
- Navneet Kaur Baidwan, Environmental Health
  *Exploring the Phenomena of Open Solid Waste Burning in Indian Cities*
Best Presentation Award: Given to the projects that were well written and well presented

Masters Level
- Lauren O’Brien, Community Health Promotion
  *Perceptions of Blood Donation Among Four Priority Populations in the Twin Cities Metro*
- Alexis Russell, PHAP
  *Breaking Down Workplace Barriers and Improving Breastfeeding Outcomes in Minnesota Mothers*

PhD Level
- Michael Bancks, Epidemiology
  *Self-Reported Marijuana Use and Abdominal Adiposity Measured by Computed Tomography: CARDIA Study*
- Cynthia Basu, Biostatistics
  *Hierarchical Bayesian Models for the Pharmacokinetics & Pharmacodynamics of Lorenzo’s Oil*

Public Health Impact Award: Given to the projects that have the ability to be a “game changer”

Masters Level
- Kristina DeMuth, Nutrition
  *Can Moringa Oleifera Improve the Iron Status of Ugandan Children?*
- Katherine Phalen, PHAP
  *A New Standard of Care: Improving the Well-Being of Children Born to Incarcerated Mothers*

PhD Level
- Abhirup Datta, Biostatistics
  *Environment Pollutants Interpolation Using Dynamic Nearest Neighbor Gaussian Process Model*
- Michelle Meyer, Environmental Health
  *Herd-Level Parameters for Use in Epidemic Simulation Modeling of Classical Swine Fever*