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FALL 2020

# THE FUTURE OF STATISTICS DEPENDS ON *YOU!*

Your Support Makes a Difference!



Photo posted by Patricia Wright via Facebook

## *ThisIsStatistics* Celebrates 2020 #StatsGrads!

Graduate ceremonies may have been on hold this year, but a statistics degree is still something to celebrate! The ASA’s ***ThisIsStatistics* initiative**—committed to raising awareness of the opportunities an education in statistics can offer—invited

students, parents, and teachers to honor the accomplishment with posts and pictures this spring. Above are a couple of the photos shared through the **#StatsGrad** promotion.

[Learn more about our outreach and engagement efforts at \*ThisIsStatistics.org\*.](#)

“If you think you’re too small to be effective, you’ve never been in bed with a mosquito.”

— *Betty Reese*

# Cutting-Edge Resources Developed for a New K–6 Education Initiative

“Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.”  
— CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.1

You may be wondering why a second-grade English Language Literacy Standard (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.1) is highlighted in an update about an ASA presidential initiative. The answer is simple—believing statistics and data science education begins in kindergarten, if not earlier, and building on existing ASA

resources, this K–6 education working group encourages developing statistical literacy as part of language arts, social studies, and science. Lesson plans, warm-up activities, and educational games are just a few of the resources being developed and curated for kindergarten through sixth grade. More to come on this initiative!

## Student Is ‘Very Much into Science Fairs’ Thanks to ASA Experience

The ASA hosted its second annual Virtual Science Fair this spring/summer for K–12 students. A prize consisting of a gift card, certificate, and ASA goodie bag was awarded to the first-, second-, and third-place winners in each of the three grade categories: K–4, 5–8, 9–12. **Ella Anderson**, who took first place in the 2019 ASA Virtual Science Fair, was eager to participate again this year.

“She has always liked science and math, but now she is very much into science fairs and has showed an accelerated interest in both,” says her father, Aaron Anderson.

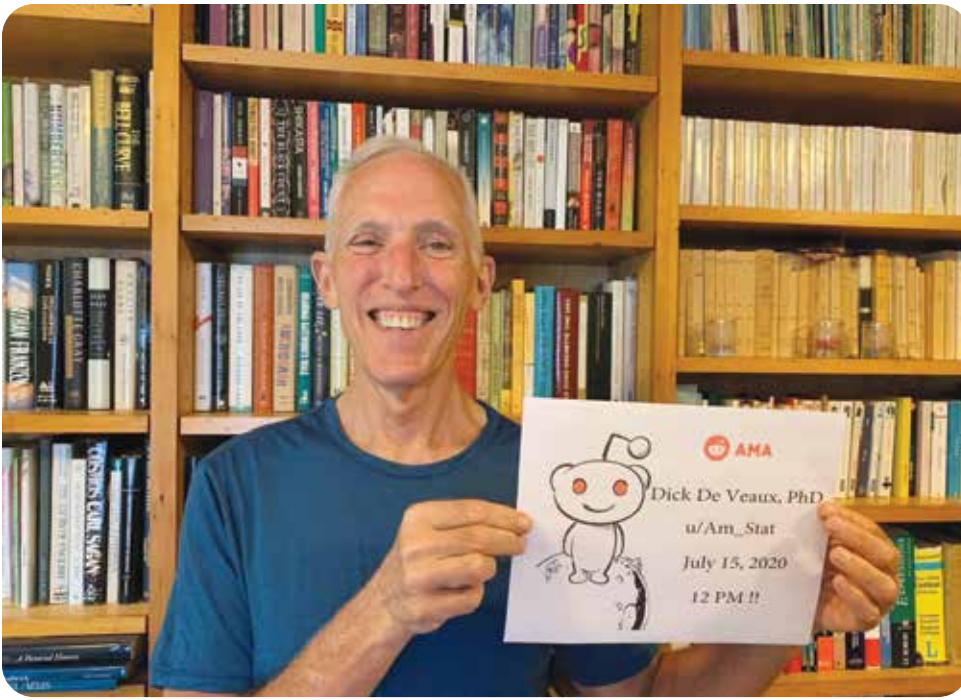
The ASA GivesBack group helped with the science fair this year by organizing



Ella Anderson holds her certificate of achievement, which she received for participating in the 2020 Virtual Science Fair.

a group of ASA members to mentor participants and answer questions about setting up an experiment, how to collect data, and how to present results effectively. To learn more about how you can become involved, visit the [ASA GivesBack Community](https://bit.ly/31thdI7) page at <https://bit.ly/31thdI7>.





ASA Vice President Dick De Veaux holds a sign showing the date of the Reddit Ask Me Anything.



ASA Past President Karen Kafadar's shirt shows the date of the Reddit Ask Me Anything.

## ASA Leaders Aim to Improve Public Statistical Literacy

The public needs statistical literacy to understand and interpret data and information being presented to them. Statistical literacy is crucial to the ability to make informed decisions about just about everything—from health and finances to election choices.

This year, the ASA teamed up with [SciLine](#), a philanthropically funded free service for journalists. This service helps educate a broader audience—think reporters on a deadline—about statistical survey methods and public opinion research.

In June, the [ASA co-sponsored the first online media briefing on polling](#) for a large number of journalists who are interested in this topic as it relates to the coming election. In July, the ASA hosted an “Ask Me Anything” session on the massive online community Reddit. The topic, *Improving the Public's Trust in Information and Data*,



ASA Senior Advisor for Statistics Communication and Media Innovation Regina Nuzzo shows off a sign for the ASA's Ask Me Anything in July.

featured [ASA Past President Karen Kafadar](#), [ASA Vice President Dick De Veaux](#), and [ASA Senior Advisor for Statistics Communication and Media Innovation Regina Nuzzo](#). The group answered questions in real time from Redditors about a variety of topics (<https://bit.ly/2XoJ8rh>).

“At the end of the day, it’s not about what you have or even what you’ve accomplished . . . it’s about who you’ve lifted up, who you’ve made better. It’s about what you’ve given back.”

— Denzel Washington

## Support Statistics on **ASA Giving Day 2020**

**Giving Day 2020** will be a time to both reflect and connect. We will reflect on

how far we’ve come as an association and how much further we have to go. And we will connect with colleagues and friends

while celebrating the work we are doing together to improve society.

Join us on October 2 to see the ways you can give back, whether by donating, volunteering, or sharing a message of hope and encouragement.

Plus, because we do like to have a little fun, there will be opportunities to win prizes!

The **Chapter Challenge** and **University Challenge** will return for their second year. All challenge winners will receive a goodie bag to use as a door prize at a future event. The Chapter Challenge winner will also have the opportunity for **ASA Executive Director Ron Wasserstein** to speak at a chapter event.

Visit [www.amstat.org/givingday](http://www.amstat.org/givingday) to learn more.



Win a prize like this one when you participate in ASA Giving Day 2020.

### HELP THE ASA

- **Improve** K–12 statistics education
- **Promote** better public statistical literacy
- **Advocate** for the profession and making sound policy
- **Grow** the next generation of leaders in statistics and data science

YOU can make a difference on Giving Day and beyond! **Donate – Volunteer – Share** a message of hope and encouragement! **#ASAGivingDay**