The UR Center for RNA Biology is running an RNA presentation contest, sponsored by the RNA Society and Lexogen, for graduate students, postdocs, and lab technicians on the topic:

“Convince us why your favorite RNA or RNA-binding protein is worthy of our admiration”

Who is eligible: Any University of Rochester graduate student, postdoc, or lab technician with an interest in RNA biology (No need to be an RNA biologist. Previous contest winners also welcome to apply.)

Entry rules: Contestants for oral presentations will be chosen based on the scientific merit of their abstract (500-word max, excluding title, including references). To be considered for the oral competition, abstracts conforming to the rules, detailed below, must be submitted by **12pm on January 3rd**.

Prizes: Three prizes of a one-year membership in the RNA Society plus $300 will be given to each of the three top oral presenters. Those who are already RNA Society members will be given membership for the following year. The prize funds should be used toward attending a research meeting.

Details: Contestants for oral presentation will be selected by an anonymous panel of faculty judges based on the scientific merit of their submission (500 words or fewer). In addition to the ~500-word description, please include your name, department, lab, status, year(s) at the UR, and if you were or are supported by a fellowship.

Those selected for the oral competition will give a 2-min intro of themselves, and an 8-minute science talk about their favorite RNA or RNA-binding protein followed by a 3-min Q&A session. Presentations will **January 12th and 26th** during the usual Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics Seminar Series on Wednesdays at 2pm (virtual or in-person TBD). Applicants and contestants should plan to be present for both January dates. Winners will be determined by the judges based on the quality of their presentations and their ability to address questions during the Q&A session.

Email submissions by **12pm on January 3rd** to elizabeth_leverenz@urmc.rochester.edu.

Oral contestants will be notified by January 5th.

The RNA Society: [https://www.rnasociety.org/](https://www.rnasociety.org/)
UR Center for RNA Biology: [https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/rna-biology.aspx](https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/rna-biology.aspx)